

SKIN DIVER

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SEP 1958

M A G A Z I N E

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SEPTEMBER
1958



SKIN DIVER MAGAZINE

LYNWOOD, CALIFORNIA, U. S. A.

*Devoted to the
Underwater World*

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underwater swimming enthusiasts and to provide
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notes

"Your August editorial warning against the use of surplus equip-
ment is exactly along the lines the Sea Rovers are working. Here's
what happened.

"A 14-year-old boy died in four feet of water wearing a surplus
Momsen lung. He and a buddy bought them at a Boston surplus
store. The clerk said they 'were good for diving.' One boy's Dad
took one look at it and tossed it into the fire. The other boy
didn't have a Dad to warn him. He tried filling it with a bicycle
pump and put in on in the water and submerged.

"His body was recovered—he didn't have a chance. The soda-
lime inside had taken on water and given off some powerful fumes.

"Dr. Guido Majno, Assistant Professor of Pathology at the Har-
vard Medical School, and Frank Scalli, President of the Sea Rovers,
and I contacted the Police. They were delighted to have our help
in the investigation. We took the Momsen lung with us. Frank
Scalli spent the next couple of days studying it. This included
visits to the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Safety where the re-
maining air was analyzed. The lung was disassembled aboard a
submarine at the Charlestown Navy Yard. It was in working or-
der—but—as experienced divers know, the Momsen is meant to
go from down deep to the surface. It is a one way ticket only,
UP. The boy had attempted to take it down and any air in the
lung was automatically purged out.

"The surplus store had sold twenty of the lungs. One was de-
stroyed, one had caused a death—where were the other eighteen?
We waited; the following week the papers carried word of another
death with a Momsen lung. That leaves seventeen more to go.

"The newspapers were called in and an article appeared in bold
print. What effect it had is still conjectural.

"The Navy Public Relations Officer for the First Naval District
was next contacted. It was explained to him clearly that the Navy
was responsible for declaring these lungs surplus and they were as
dangerous as hand grenades. The Admiral sent word to Washing-
ton and word has come down that the further sale of Momsen
lungs would cease. However, there are still many in the hands
of the surplus stores and each one is a guaranteed death trap.

"We have requested the Navy to locate and get back these
murderous pieces of equipment. So far no clear-cut decision."

—WALTER FEINBERG, *Boston Sea Rovers*

There it is, right on the heels of our editorial of last month.
This group of responsible divers really went to work. The Momsen
was used for several years as an escape unit for trapped sub-
mariners by the U. S. Navy. It has now been discarded in favor
of the Buoyant escape method. If you know of any of these Momsen
units around, advise the owner that it was not manufactured
for diving . . . only for emergency escape from the bottom to the
surface . . . UP.

Let's have some more action . . . contact your local Naval Dis-
trict, as the Sea Rovers did, and insist that these (and all other
oxygen rebreathers) Momsen units be destroyed . . . NOT offered to
the general public through the surplus stores. Write to your
Congressman, State Health Officer, before they get into the hands
and mouths of up-coming divers.

On the brighter side . . . Southern Californians are now being
treated to thirty minutes of skin diving adventure and education
via KHJ-TV channel 9 every Thursday at 8 p.m. The program,
sponsored by three of the leading dive shops and SD, usually fea-
tures a prominent star from the entertainment world as its guest
and film of underwater activities. A diving club is also saluted
during the show. The producer has lined up many excellent films
from all over the world and about all types of diving. Only one
or two of the films has ever been seen in the area by the old
timers, so even though the program is designed to attract the be-
ginner to the sport, all divers will enjoy watching it every week.

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september cover

The Cruise of the Panchin, featured in this issue, was highlighted
by the hustle and bustle of photographer Don Siverts. Don is
shown on the cover, minus camera, playing with a comical Puffer
fish. Many varieties of adventure were presented to the crew on
the wayward Panchin—days of diving, lobster, fish, turtle, deer,
rattlesnakes, eagles and food.

1959 • • • • •

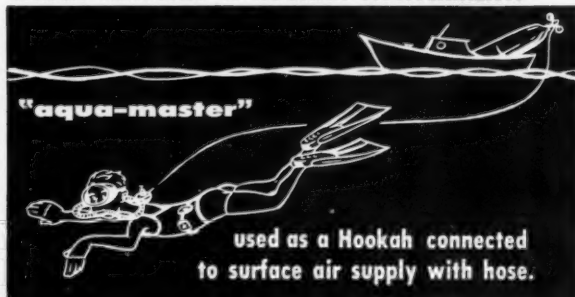
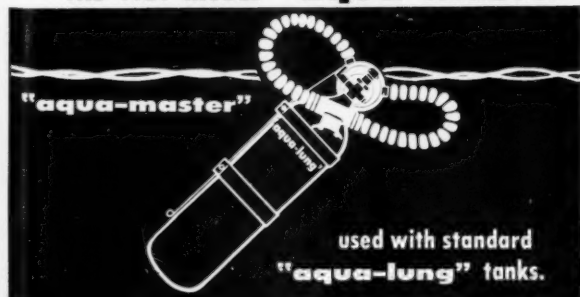
DA "aqua-master"

THE LATEST COUSTEAU-GAGNAN DEVELOPMENT



THE MOST ADVANCED, LIGHTEST BREATHING REGULATOR EVER BUILT.

HIGH SALES OF THE 1958 MODEL NO. 1010 DA "aqua-master" AND THE INCREASED DEMAND FOR HOOKAH UNITS HAVE COMPELLED OUR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF THE 1959 MODEL "aqua-master" WHICH FEATURES A HOOKAH ATTACHMENT.



u.s. divers co.

11201 WEST PICO BOULEVARD • LOS ANGELES 64, CALIFORNIA

Now To Introduce The New

2 For the Price of 1 Crazy Offer!

NOT SO CRAZY OFFER! We want you to try Skooba-"totes." Once you find out how wonderful they are you'll tell your friends about them. That's why we make this money-saving introductory offer to you.

LIMITED TIME ONLY—Buy any Skooba-"totes" product and get the second one FREE! Why fool around with patchwork, cement and rubber sheeting? Here are complete "professional" suits and accessories, ready to dive, and at a price that defies even the do-it-yourself kits.

HURRY! Offer may be withdrawn at any time so don't wait. See coupon below.

100% FACTORY GUARANTEED! Skooba-"totes" are made by the makers of the World's Largest Selling seamless gum rubber waterproof wear for men, women, children and sportsmen. If Skooba-"totes" are not everything we say—you may return within 10 days for a refund of your purchase price.

New! First Time Ever Shown!



#2025 KEY SKOوبا-"totes" SUIT

One-piece, crotch entry stretchy gum rubber suit with long sleeves. Protects vital parts in chilling winds, cold water. Quick snap fastener at front of crotch. Smooth fitting, yet allows complete freedom for action. Complete with Speed Patch Kit. Sizes: Small, Medium, Large.

Regularly.....\$16.95 ea.

TO INTRODUCE! 2 for \$16.95

#2022

SWIM TRUNK SKOوبا-"totes"

Form-fitting pure gum rubber swim trunks. Just like swimming with no suit. Easy on-off. No buckles or drawstrings. Won't pull off when diving. Provides more support than cloth suits. Dries in seconds. Sizes: Small, Medium, and Large.

Regularly.....\$4.95 ea.

TO INTRODUCE! 2 for \$4.95



#21 WAIST RING AND RAIL

Some divers insist on this hard rubber rail and stretchy ring for sealing pants and shirt on waist entry suit. Rail has stainless spring steel prong. \$5.25 set.

TO INTRODUCE! 2 sets for \$5.25



#401-SD SHORE BOOT SKOوبا-"totes"

Protect suit feet against sharp rocks and other shore litter. Pliable, form fitting. Fit comfortably into fins without chafing. Extra reinforced for long wear at bottom and sides. Sizes: Small (6-8), Medium (8-10), Large (10-12). Regularly.....\$2.95 pair.

TO INTRODUCE! 2 pr. for \$2.95



#2023 DIVERS GLOVE SKOوبا-"totes"

Pliable, waterproof gloves with tapered wrist seal. Soft enough to pick up tiny objects. Rough-grip outer surface. Protects hands against coral and other sharp objects. Wear over wool gloves in coldest waters. Sizes: Small, Medium and Large.

Regularly.....\$2.95 pair.

TO INTRODUCE! 2 pr. for \$2.95



#2026 NOR'EASTER-"totes"

Perfect waterproof foul-weather gear. Keeps you warm and dry in cold wind, spray, rain. Warm, even in below zero weather. Made in one-piece with attached hood. Tapered wrist seal. 3 button collar. Two deep pockets. Vented at arms and ears for added air circulation. Full ¾ length Universal size for men, women. Regularly.....\$19.95 ea.

TO INTRODUCE! 2 for \$19.95

All Skooba-"totes" made of Pure Gum Rubber. Color: Blending Brown.

SKIN DIVER—September 1958

PURE GUM RUBBER

100% SEAMLESS

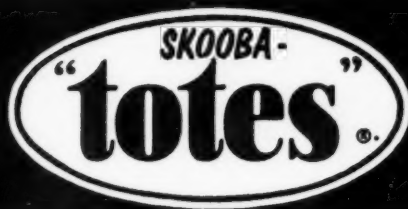
EASY ON NO TAIL NEEDED

STRETCH WON'T BIND

TOUGH! HARD TO RIP OR SNAG!

SKIN DIVER

e New



Products

"WORLD'S FINEST DRY SUIT!"



Says Ernie Ryckman, commercial diver of Key West, Florida. "The Skooba-'totes' tough, seamless rubber makes it the ideal suit for rough salvage work . . . or for pleasure diving. The only suit for diving at greater depths and in coldest water. I couldn't work for hours underwater without Skooba-'totes' and, there's nothing like it on the market at any price."

2 SUITS FOR \$34.95

One for you —
One for a pal

Entire production sold out last time offered. Hundreds disappointed. Offer now being extended.

SKOوبا-"totes" 3-piece DRY SUIT

100% DRY—NO SEAMS TO LEAK! Think of it. Absolutely no seams anywhere on suit. No paste or cement used. Each suit consists of SEAMLESS HOOD that seals at face and neck; SEAMLESS LONG SHIRT with new tapered seal at wrist and neck; SEAMLESS LONG PANTS with feet; (Pants and shirt roll together to make watertight seal at waist); WAIST BAND to hold shirt and pants roll in place, and Speed Patch Kit for quick, on-the-spot repairs in case of accidental damage. Regular price: \$34.95.

SIZES	WAIST	HEIGHT	WEIGHT
Small	30 to 34	5'5" to 5'9"	135 to 160
Medium	32 to 36	5'7" to 6'	155 to 180
Large	34 to 38	5'10" to 6'1"	175 to 210
Extra Lge.	36 to 40	6'0" to 6'4"	200 to 240

SEAMLESS HOOD ONLY \$ 2.95
SEAMLESS SHIRT ONLY 14.95
SEAMLESS PANTS ONLY 16.95

2 for price of 1 Coupon

(This Coupon Not Good After October 15, 1958)

Buy any Skooba-"totes" products from your dealer at the regular prices. Then mail this Coupon to the factory along with box labels showing style numbers and the sales slip from store. Include \$1.00 to cover postage and handling. We will send you the duplicate of your purchase FREE. Be sure to state sizes wanted.

IF YOUR DEALER CAN'T SUPPLY YOU—enclose this Coupon and money order for items wanted. Be sure to state sizes wanted for all items. We'll have your Skooba-"totes" sent promptly. Sorry, no C.O.D.

So-Lo MARX RUBBER Company • Dept. SD, Loveland, Ohio



PURE GUM RUBBER!

100% SEAMLESS

EASY ON - NO TALC NEEDED

STRETCHY WON'T BIND

TOUGH! HARD TO RIP OR SNAG!

NEW!—"AIR MITE" DIVING LUNG



**NORTHILL'S
ALL-NEW "AIR MITE"**
gives you the greatest
value for mouthpiece
and valve in the SCUBA
field... only \$37.50!

The Northhill AIR MITE 'breathes like a breeze'—making breathing under water as easy as on the surface. And exhaling through the side vents directs bubbles away from the face.

The lightweight AIR MITE fits any standard tank block, and its brilliant yellow color makes the unit easily discernible in the water. All parts are corrosion resistant. Cleaning and maintenance are as easy as turning a screwdriver—that's all you need.

You'll breathe a lot easier with the superior safety-plus performance of the all-new Northhill AIR MITE. Write to us today for free literature.

If you live east of the Mississippi, write to the Fenjohn Company, Inc., 90 Cricket Avenue, Ardmore, Pennsylvania. Those living west of the Mississippi write The Garrett Corporation, Air Cruisers Division, Belmar, New Jersey.

THE GARRETT CORPORATION
AIR CRUISERS DIVISION
BELMAR, NEW JERSEY

LETTERS

Boat Found . . .

. . . Your readers will be pleased to know we have our boat back which was lost in the Gulf of California. It was over three weeks after it was lost that we received word of it. Apparently it had drifted for a week before it was spotted by a fishing boat on the other side of the Gulf where it had anchored itself on a sand bar. It had drifted across the Gulf in a southerly direction probably 500 miles. It was taken in tow by a Mexican fishing boat and brought into Guaymas. There was a \$400 towing and salvage fee against it. All of our expensive gear was safe aboard. Some smaller items were missing. After all, I can say the Mexican government does try to protect your property down there. Our big mistake was not having about 40 feet of chain between the rope and the anchor. I wish to thank those who offered help and suggestions for our plight.

Charles Coates
Salinas, Calif.

Pen Pal . . .

. . . After reading your diving magazine, I gather that there must be thousands of skin divers in the United States. Perhaps there are a few people who would write to me. I am 19 years old, own my own lung (an American 70 cu. ft. tank and Mistral single stage demand regulator) and have a full length dry suit.

David Webster
9, Brixworth Rise
Thurnay Lodge Est.
Leicester, England

Aqua Vision . . .

. . . The letter of Mr. J. C. Tannehill in the July, 1958 issue of "Skin Diver" was very interesting to me. This writer discussed various devices and methods of improving underwater vision of divers who have nearsightedness, astigmatism, etc.

During the past few years my son and I have developed a practical device which allows divers to really see clearly underwater. After spending considerable effort and money developing our method, we placed it on the market early this year under the trade name "Aquavision."

Aquavision is a prescription-fitted face plate containing the proper eye corrections for the diver. It gives the diver good vision underwater just as eyeglasses give him good vision in air. Aquavision replaces the face plate of the diver's mask. It is made for both the Squal and Champion masks.

During the short time that Aquavision has been on the market orders have been received from all parts of the country. Each customer has been highly enthusiastic about the wonderful enjoyment of diving with his Aquavision. Every report we have had indicates that our invention meets a real need of divers who have vision problems.

Dr. Fred Kornbacher,
211 N. 4th Street
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

(Continued on Page 9)

SKIN DIVER—September 1958

NOW!

From the world's largest producer
of gas-powered rifles and pistols...

the

NEW!

Crosman

ROCKET SPEAR

GAS-POWERED

SEA GUN

**Fastest, most powerful, most deadly underwater
spearfishing gun ever made!**

Exclusive

**TRIPLE-SHOT GAS POWER
LOADING-UNDERWATER**

Shoot! Again! And again! You get
three killing shots with one CO₂ gas
Powerlet . . . for less than 7c a shot!
Reloads easily in seconds,
underwater!

featuring

Exclusive

**ROCKET SPEAR
SUPER-SPEED**

Self-contained pressure chamber in
spear keeps feeding gas . . . drives
spear so fast fish can't see it. (CAU-
TION: Out-of-water speed is 350
ft/pls . . . range, 450 feet; gun must
never be charged or shot
out of water.)

Exclusive

**ROCKET SPEAR
KILLING POWER**

Smashes into game fish with stun-
ning impact at 15 feet, penetrates
deep into the largest, toughest fish
. . . no extra powerhead needed.
Head shots are sure one-shot kills.

Exclusive

ROCKET SPEAR ACCURACY

The power is in the rocket spear it-
self! Just pull the trigger; spear
hurtles to the target under its own
sustained thrust of CO₂ gas . . . stays
on the mark . . . no wobbling,
no swerving.

Exclusive

POSITIVE DUAL SAFETY

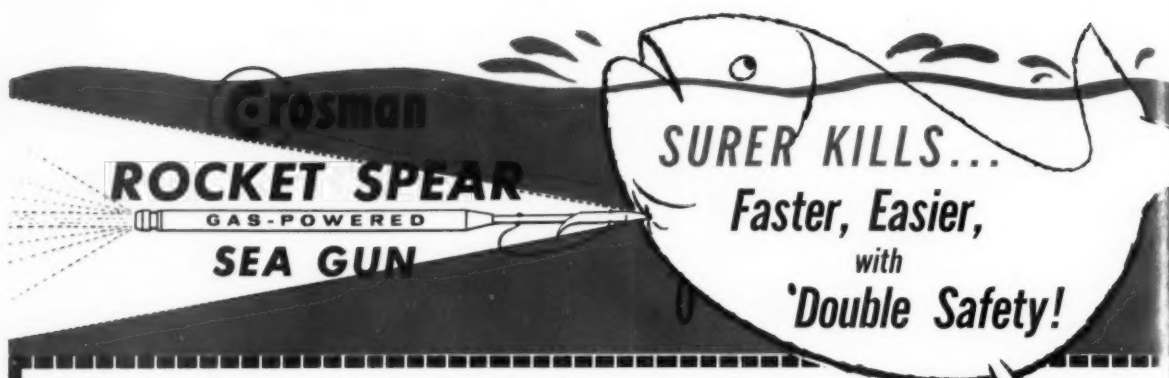
Trigger safety plus gas valve safety.
Only the Rocket Spear Sea Gun gives
you this extra margin of safety. And
you need it . . . because there's no other
spear gun so powerful!

Exclusive

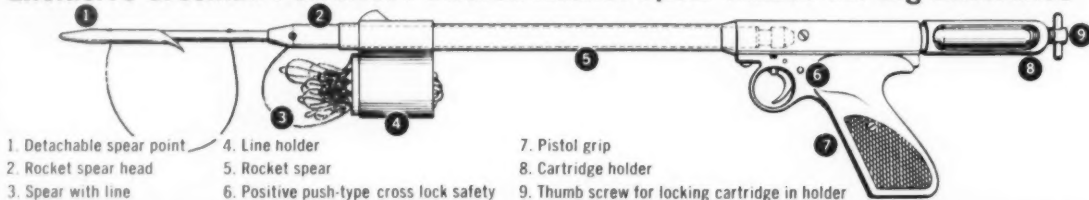
FEATHERLIGHT and SHORT

Easy, simple, convenient to use, even
in cramped areas. Weighs only 22
ounces . . . with spear, 28 ounces . . .
only 28 inches long . . . but power
enough to stop a shark!





Exclusive Crosmen Powerlet-Powered Rocket Spear Makes the Big Difference



Compare these all-new, action-tested performance advantages with any other spear gun.

Exclusive CROSMAN DESIGN, PRECISION-BUILT.

Here's the all-purpose, super-powered gun you've been waiting for... designed in close collaboration with leading skin divers... for sure kills of large and small fish, in salt and fresh water. Precision-built with special corrosion-resistant materials and finishes for years of trouble-free underwater service by the world's foremost manufacturer of gas-powered weapons.

Exclusive TRIPLE-SHOT POWERLET GAS LOAD. Only the Crosmen Rocket Spear Sea Gun gives you tremendous power for three deadly shots... from a single disposable Crosmen gas Powerlet, sold by sporting goods dealers everywhere. CO₂ gas power releases barely discernible vapor... no blinding trail of large bubbles. No cumbersome gas cylinders to add weight and bulk. No one-shot-and-reload routine. Maximum usable power for three shots at less than 7c a shot! Powerlet replaced in seconds... *underwater!*

Exclusive ROCKET SPEAR with SUSTAINED POWER THRUST for TOP ACCURACY. Self-contained CO₂ gas charge propels this spear under constant, expanding sustained power to keep it on the mark... no wobbling... no swerving. Just open valve with a half-turn for two seconds to arm spear's pressure chamber with gas... close valve... release safety... you are ready to shoot anytime.

**DEALERS: ORDER NOW FROM
YOUR JOBBER OR WRITE DIRECT**

In Canada: Crosmen Arms (Canada), Ltd., Toronto
 In Mexico: Crosmen de Mexico, Mexico 4, D. F.

Exclusive SUPER SPEED and DEEP PENETRATION.

Spear travels so fast, fish can't see it! So powerful, it smashes through 3 inches of pine at 5 feet... 3/8-inch plywood at 15 feet, under water! In actual tests, barbed head penetrates deep into bony heads of largest fish... killed a five-foot leopard shark on first impact. **WARNING:** Rocket Spear Gas Gun must never be charged or shot except under water, because of tremendous out-of-water velocity and range and will damage spear mechanism.

Exclusive DUAL SAFETY. No other spear gun gives you this extra protection: one safety locks the gas valve until you're ready to arm the spear... another locks trigger until you're ready to shoot. This is the deadliest spear gun you can buy... and it's the safest in your hands.

Exclusive FEATHERLIGHT and SHORT. Here's the shortest, lightest gun on the market... yet it's everything you need to stop even the biggest game fish and predators. You get unequalled mobility... ease of handling, even in cramped spaces, that can save you valuable seconds in getting off *once-in-a-lifetime* shots.

SPECIFICATIONS:

LENGTH: 28 inches
 WEIGHT: 22 ounces; with spear, 28 ounces
 FINISH: Marine Blue and Gold with Marble Grey Pistol Grip
 PRICE: Complete kit, including Rocket Spear Sea Gun, 1 Rocket Spear, 2 boxes of 6 Powerlets each, 1 tube of silicon lubricating jelly, 15 feet of line... only \$39.95. Extra Rocket Powered Spears... only \$8.95 each.

Engineered and Manufactured by
CROSMAN ARMS COMPANY, INC.
 Fairport, N. Y.

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SKIN D

Treasure Book . . .

... As a scuba diver turned treasure hunter, I'd like to ask your readers if they would care to contribute to a project on which my fellow divers and I have been working for some time, during breaks in our work here. This is a book, tentatively called "Submarine Treasure Hunting," which will be published by Doubleday & Co. next spring. Its purpose is to bring up to date the entire subject of underwater search, salvage, wreck identification—and treasure hunting. I'll tell you why we're putting such a book together.

Three years ago I started a treasure hunt in Vigo Bay and assembled here a crack-team of American, French, Belgian and British lung divers. The Vigo treasure is probably the most famous in the world and we felt that we had a good chance of success.

It took us two years of diving and study to learn that of the original 17 galleons only six ever sank to the bay's bottom. The treasure that they contained was salvaged long ago, as well as the wrecks themselves, right down to the keels. Fortunately all was not lost. We learned that one of the Vigo galleons still lies on the bottom of the ocean intact, containing a cargo of silver. First we made swimming searches over the sea bed along parallel lines in a carefully worked out search pattern. Then we used submarine metal detectors. Finally, this year, we have been searching with a submarine magnetometer. We've found what we believe to be the first trace of the lost ship, 200 feet deep, and hope to find the hull and begin salvage this summer.

Starting as beginners, we made just about

all the mistakes possible. Reason? Inexperience and lack of information on instruments that could have helped us, plus a confidence that now seems naive in written words of treasure "authorities."

Others must have gone through our own experience, and many more will during the next years, since, with the development of scuba treasure hunting is booming throughout the world. What we're trying to do is assemble the cream of our lessons, and the lessons learned by others, into one book thoroughly covering:

—Wreckage Identification from salvaged cannon and artifacts (we've seen an ancient English warship accurately identified through analysis of one copper boat nail found in its wreckage).

—Submarine Search: swimming patterns through the electronic aids available today (our magnetometer, for instance, makes definite contact with a single iron cannon, whether buried under sand, coral covered, or what, up to distances of 30 feet from its underwater element which is towed over the bottom).

—Where to find authoritative information on sunken ships.

—Today's fraternity of treasure divers; who they are, what they're doing and have done.

—Salvage methods: from air lifts to dynamite.

The toughest part of the book will be the many chapters covering Sunken Treasures to be salvaged. I hope to be able to include and describe just about all the important ones under the oceans, rivers, lakes and coves around the world. These descriptions must be factual and complete, and realistic

about probable actual values. One of our divers estimates that most of the fantastic treasure stories "add one zero to the value for every fifty years that the treasure's been sunk." That's what we want to avoid, while still accurately describing the many real treasures that can be found and salvaged.

For this reason I'm writing now to ask your readers if they will send me any news they have on sunken wealth (precious metal and also historical treasures—old amphoras, etc.) so that we can, in the Sunken Treasure section, make the descriptions complete, accurate and up-to-date. What we need to know: names of wrecks containing treasure; their construction; when and how lost; location and depth, if known; whether already found; nature of their treasure cargo and realistic value; condition (intact, broken up, coral-covered, buried under mud and sand, etc.); brief account of salvage attempts and whether any were successful; names and addresses with further information about them. Also news of any clues which might lead to known lost treasures, such as coins found near the site of a sunken galleon, and guess as to the name of the wreck from which they came.

We hope, with the kind cooperation of fellow scuba divers, to be able to put together a definitely useful book. With recent developments in scuba and electronic search equipment, we feel that "treasure hunting" has finally come into its own.

John Potter, Jr.
Atlantic Salvage Co., Ltd.
Bayona (Pontevedra)
Spain

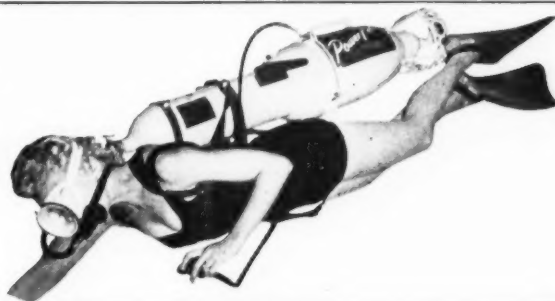
NOW . . . from RICHARDS — A New Era in Skin Diving!

POST POWER PAK

PAT.
PEND.

SENSATIONAL UNDERWATER VEHICLE!

*Leaves your hands Free
to hold a camera, a spear
or underwater tools!*



RICHARDS HAS DONE IT AGAIN! This time it's the extraordinary POST POWER PAK . . . an amazing portable vehicle that now actually mechanizes or flies man under water! Never before has there been anything like the POST POWER PAK in the skin diving field!

This unit will do for the underwater man what the automobile did for the walking man, what the jet plane will do to the piston plane and what the steamboat did to the sailing vessels!

This unit, being an integral part of the diver's standard equipment, does not destroy the basic reason for the success of the Aqua-Lung: MOBILITY . . . and the POST POWER PAK diver has this same mobility! He is able to freely explore caves and ships. Depths and areas can be covered with a team of POWER PAK equipped divers in less time than that of dozens of ordinary divers.

The lightweight POWER PAK is simple to attach to the base of a standard "Aqua-Lung" tank with the flick of a convenient safety

handle. The whole unit lies naturally and comfortably on the diver's back with the propeller safely located between the ankles. Heavy propeller guard protects the diver . . . and it also serves as a sturdy stand that will support the unit out of water and for easy attachment to the body with the tank harness.

By propelling the diver through the water up to 3 mph, the POWER PAK conserves energy . . . leaves your hands free to use underwater tools . . . reduces air consumption in half and gives the Aqua-lung tank a longer life. The PAK motor will provide more than 2 hours of continuous operation. Intermittent cruising time on one battery charge can be extended to about 4 hours.

The basic POWER PAK, in a specially constructed Epoxy resin aluminum case, has a 17 amp hour motor and a 12-volt non-spillage 35 amp hour airplane battery. Total unit weighs only 48 lbs. It has approximately 3 lbs. positive buoyancy in fresh water and is designed along the best aerodynamic principles. Steering and controls are quickly mastered, and with the coordination of the shoulder harness and fins, you will be able to accomplish hair-pin turns, immelmans, circles and somersaults. The POST POWER PAK was designed and constructed by Bernard Starr, top underwater designer and head of Richards diving team for over 5 years.

COMPLETE
\$189⁹⁵
F.O.B.
N.Y.C.

Available accessories: Battery Charger, Double 12-volt or 24-volt operation with adapter rings.

RICHARDS AQUA-LUNG CENTER

233 WEST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

Counselors and outfitters for world-wide underseas expeditions

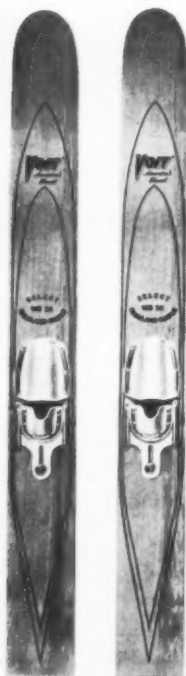
Richards tests and checks all equipment under actual oceanic conditions.
One Year Guarantee.

WHAT'S NEW?



EXPLORER LUNG—Voit has a new regulator—The Explorer—that combines with a standard valve and single tank to deliver safe, superb scuba for less than \$100.

The Explorer Regulator offers top performance with any tank assembly. Built-in automatic reserve in regulator provides reserve supply when used with non-reserve valve. The exhaust is designed to channel bubbles away from the face, assuring easy vision and easy breathing.



WATER SKIS

Inboard, Outboard and Slalom. Finest materials and fittings. Exciting new comfort and styling features plus the strongest, straightest guarantee in the business!



BASIC DIVING GEAR

Built for the expert in a wide range of prices, sizes and designs.

Better see your Voit dealer. He has some terrific new items guaranteed to interest you and every other expert diver. Then, too, he carries the traditional favorites that have made Voit the leading name in swim equipment. There's much more to tell, so be sure to see your Voit dealer and find out what's new!

America's Finest Swim Equipment By
NEW YORK 11 • CHICAGO 11 • LOS ANGELES 11

VOIT

NATION'S LARGEST DIVING SCHOOL MOVES

Coastal School of Deep Sea Diving, the nation's largest and most complete diving training school, has recently moved to larger facilities to accommodate their growing roster of trainees and equipment. Al Mikalow, director of the school, and several Master Diver instructors will now be holding their classes at the new location which is 219 Fifth Street, Oakland, California.

Part of the equipment included in the new location is the Divers Supply office, deep sea diving locker, welding and rigging loft, outside welding area, class rooms, a twelve foot deep 16,000 gallon training tank, underwater television equipment, a six-man decompression chamber, a diving bell, complete oxygen-helium deep sea equipment and several diving and training craft.

ABALONE VIOLATORS FINED, LOSE BOAT

Three commercial abalone fishermen had their boat taken away from them and were assessed a total of \$425 in fines when they appeared in Santa Barbara (Calif.) Municipal Court and plead guilty to a charge of transporting abalones out of the shell.

Judge Frank P. Kearney fined Ross Carmack and Douglas Hopper of Santa Barbara \$200 apiece, fined Elwin Gilkey of San Jose \$25, and awarded their 37-foot boat, 'Adriana' and 30 dozen illegal abalones to the State Department of Fish and Game.

DFG wardens intercepted the trio and their illegal catch at midnight in Santa Barbara Harbor.

To enforce minimum size limits, the State Fish and Game Code requires that abalones must be brought ashore attached to the shell and alive. It is unlawful to possess abalones not in the shell, except when they are being prepared for immediate consumption.

Judge Kearney indicated that, in order to protect a diminishing resource, he would continue to deal harshly with those who violate regulations governing the taking of abalones.

BANGOR DIVING FIRM AWARDED CONTRACT

International Undersea Services, Marine Contractors, Bangor, Maine, have been awarded the contract to lay the underwater supply pipelines for the newly constructed State Fish Hatchery located at Cold Stream Pond, West Enfield, Maine.

International was the low bidder to Norman E. Jackson, Inc., General Contractors, Pittsfield, Maine, the firm in charge of constructing the entire hatchery project.

The Bangor diving firm will lay two sections of pipe out into the nation's second crystal clear waters near the outlet of Cold Stream Pond. The main line is 24" i.d. cast iron pipe, approximately 1350 feet in length. The intake will be laid at a depth below 40 feet. The secondary line is 18" i.d. pipe approximately 760 feet. This line will be laid in shallow water, thus allowing the warmer surface waters to mix with the cold water from the main line. Waters from the dual piping system will serve as temperature control.

WATCH . . .
"SKIN DIVER"

KHJ-TV Los Angeles channel 9
Thursdays at 8 P.M.

SKIN DIVER—September 1958

GIANT STAR MOP SCHEDULED

Bob Retherford, President Pro-Tem. of the California Council of Diving Clubs, announces that the date of Sunday, October 12, 1958, has been set for the largest Starfish Mop ever held by divers. Most of the coast line of Orange County will be covered by this event, the biggest drive being in the cities of Newport Beach, Corona del Mar and Laguna Beach. Staring time is 9 a.m.

The Newport Harbor Submariners Club will be in charge of all operations. All clubs and individuals are asked to participate.

The California Council is donating an Aqua-Matic scuba regulator for the largest starfish 'drug' in to be measured. There will also be numerous other prizes.

Boats will be furnished to divers by the Power Divers Club, the U.S. Power Squadron (Newport Branch), and other boating organizations.

Chairman of operations for the Submariners Club is Ed Lewis, 999 Oak Street, Costa Mesa, California. Further info on the event may be obtained either by writing Ed or calling Newport Beach Oriole 3-5440.

EMPIRE STATE TREASURE HUNT

The Empire State Underwater Council announces that they will be holding a gigantic Treasure Hunt for all member clubs and their guests on Sunday, September 7, 1958. This is the Sunday after Labor Day. The location selected for this Council affair is Skaneateles Lake, Borodino, New York.

Road markers will indicate the way to Lourdes Camp, where the meet is to be held. This Treasure Hunt is strictly for member clubs and their guests.

GENERAL PUBLIC GETS CLOSER LOOK AT SKIN DIVING

August was a great publicity month for the sport of skin diving. The August 19 issue of *Look* featured a three page color section on the art of cooking the fruits of diving along with several excellent recipes. *Newsweek* of August 11 carried a five page article featuring skin diving as their sport of the week. Quotes from notable divers across the country gives an insight on the national sport to John Q. *Life* of August 11 also carried a couple of diving pictures. Subjects were members of the Underwater Photographers Society of Southern California on a camera clicking expedition. Bob Yeakel's boat, Lucky Dutchman, carried the entire club to Catalina for *Life*.

DANGEROUS MARINE ANIMALS

September 1958 is the publication date for a book with the above title by Cornell Maritime Press. The author is Bruce W. Halstead, LCDR, M.C., USNR, who has been engaged in research on poisonous and venomous marine animals for the past 12 years.

"Dangerous Marine Animals" is a world-wide underwater guide to these beasts. In scope of coverage this book is pointed to those who will encounter dangerous marine animals and it describes marine organisms, their noxious effects, treatment and how to recognize and avoid them. Soon to appear in the SD Underwater Book Shelf.

SKIN DIVER—September 1958

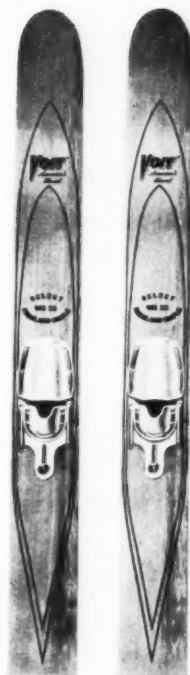
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Conventional, Continental and Banana Shapes
Select Mahogany and Highland Maple,
Marine Laminated and Aqua-Glass Materials
Exclusive new Fittings and Molded
Toe and Heel Pieces

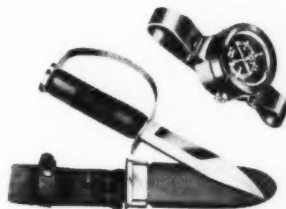
Backing this line is the most straightforward guarantee in the business. Voit will replace any damaged ski, whatever the cause, for \$5 plus shipping charges!

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TRIDENT GUN

Your best bet in dense sea growth, rocks or coral. Triple-barbed. 20" barrel.



DIVING ACCESSORIES—For greater safety and enjoyment—depth gauges, knives, weight belt and waterproof cases.



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Better see your Voit dealer. He has some terrific new items guaranteed to interest you and every other expert diver. Then, too, he carries the traditional favorites that have made Voit the leading name in swim equipment. There's much more to tell, so be sure to see your Voit dealer and find out what's new!

America's Finest Swim Equipment By
NEW YORK 11 • CHICAGO 11 • LOS ANGELES 11

VOIT



Introduction to underwater adventure on the high seas . . .

"Log of the Chiriqui"
will be featured each
month as the ocean yacht
sails to new diving areas
in the Pacific . . .

Did you ever go diving when everything was perfect? You know, the water was clear, warm, plenty of game, and so on. How would you like to have all the time you wanted to enjoy the best of diving? Seven of us are going on a cruise that will fill any diver's dreams.

We are sailing aboard the Chiriqui, a 61 ft. ocean racing yacht. She has been completely reoutfitted and now has all the necessary equipment aboard for free diving. But wait, perhaps I should start at the beginning:

It began one night in the rear of the old Dive N'Surf Building. There was a small, fenced yard back there. In one corner of the yard stood the still wet, outboard powered, diving boat. The rusty trailer supporting the boat showed its many hours of use. A roaring fire in an old fifty gallon drum cast long flickering shadows from the three men sitting about the flames. Occasionally a reflection would draw their eyes to the fence where face plates, rubber suits, fins, and spearguns were hanging. Plazi Miller, Jack Russel, and I had just returned from a Catalina diving trip. Miller was talking, "Out there the water is warm all the time . . . and clear."

He was finishing his description of the South Pacific for the 285th time. Plazi is 23 years old, but already a veteran yacht skipper. He is a big, large boned man, and his oversized hands helped him tell his story. He had been diving with the pearl shell divers around Tahiti last year, had liked their way of life, and swore he was going to return some day.

I got up and began to stuff my gear off the fence and into my rubber pack, one of those war surplus ice packs. Jack Russel was still listening to Miller's closing comments. His outline stood out against the fire from where I stood: About five foot nine, medium build, average looking Joe. Odd guy that Russel. I had been diving with him about four years, but still did not know him too well. He was a writer from Malibu who would appear every two or three months and stay for a while, diving constantly every day as if to get it out of his system, then disappear again.

Russel was speaking, "Well, if it's so damn good why don't we go this winter, Miller?"

Miller and I laughed, Russel has always got some ridiculous statement designed to end conversations. We finished packing our gear, locked up and went to bed.

Late that night I awoke, and the words repeated themselves over and over, "Why don't we go?"

Early the next day we three were in the small boat bouncing toward Palos

Verdes for some lobster diving when we decided that we would go to the tropics. Our assets were totaled. They were not fantastic, but by cutting corners, we could get a small boat and make the trip. Our plans were laid . . . watch for the right boat, and select another two divers with sufficient experience and funds for the trip.

During the ensuing week, my friend Ramsey Parks joined the crew. He and I had started diving together years ago. Parks is tall and dark. He dived for Scripps Institution of Oceanography for a year, then worked for Life Magazine photographing the sunken liner, Andrea Doria.

I had told Lowell Thompson of the proposed trip, and he had expressed an interest. Lowell had been diving with me in Mexico several times in the past. He owns a garnet mine in Idaho and lives in Spokane, Washington. We organized a meeting of the crew, and Lowell flew in from Spokane to attend. At the meeting, he told us that he would like to back the cruise as a commercial enterprise, filming it for television. This came as a pleasant surprise to us all. Of course we agreed. A contract was drawn up and duly signed by all hands.

Two more crewmen, Ron Church and Bruce Meyers, joined us to make the number seven. Ron Church is a professional photographer from San Diego. He is of medium build, dark, and a very good diver. Bruce Meyers is from Newport Beach. Sandy haired and stocky, he is an artist who has been raised around the sea, surfing, diving, and sailing. Bruce has been to the South Pacific before.

Lowell purchased the "Chiriqui," and we installed an Ingersoll-Rand compressor which will fill our seventy cu. ft. air flasks in seven minutes. The small diesel engine that powers it also acts as a generator for the boat. A new main diesel was installed. The entire boat was stripped and rebuilt. Some of our equipment includes: a dozen complete sets of free diving gear, a portable air compressor (20 minutes for 70 cu. ft.), a low pressure compressor for hose diving, six Bell and Howell 16 mm cameras (three in underwater cases), an Arriflex (with UW housing), a couple of Rolleimariners, a Hasselblad, a portable generator, and projector for showing movies to natives on out islands, and on and on and on until finally, we had to leave some behind because there was no more space aboard.

After a few trial runs, the day of departure was at hand.

Watch the September issue of SD for "Part One — Offshore, Lower California."

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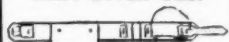
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New Aqua-Matic 2 stage Aqua Lung regulator with "20 minute" tank. Quality tested "Cousteau Gagnan" process. Is complete with automatic reserve. Top quality harness included. Tank is made for underwater, not inferior surplus cylinder. Free Book "Diving with the Aqua-Lung," with each unit. Tanks filled and ready for use. We pay shipping charges. All for \$44.50

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Famous Pescatore duck and leather utility belt. Lined pocket for extra heads, hooks for flashlight, knife, etc. Professional fish stringer.
Reg. \$7.95, half price.....\$3.95
To size 36 Reg. \$7.95—\$2.95

AQUAPHONE



Very clever sound powered underwater speaking device that can be placed in a mask or utilized with any regulator mouth piece with the exception of the Northhill. Good for limited conversation or attracting attention. Excellent for safety minded divers. Easily installed.
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DECOMPRESSION TABLE



Luminous underwater slate and rotating decompression table required for all dives. U.S. Navy Standard. Reg. \$2.95—Now 1/2 price.....\$1.50

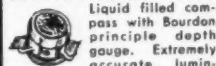


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Reg. \$29.95 1/4" Kit—\$19.95
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Liquid filled compass with Bourdon principle depth gauge. Extremely accurate, luminous, rugged, non-corrosive nickel plated brass case with heavy duty wrist band. Easy to read 2' increments 100' model.....\$12.95

"MAE WESTS"

Central SMASHES underwater life jacket prices

Here is a brand new, never used guaranteed the finest and absolutely latest model heavy duty light weight nylon U.S. Government life jacket.

Purchased from the Navy, these jackets were recently manufactured and cost the Government over \$30 each. No commercial vest can even come close to this quality.

Attention, SKIN DIVERS, this vest when inflated with the new power-pak cartridge (readily available) pulled a 175 lb. diver out of the water up to his knees from a depth of 30 ft. Attention, LUNG DIVERS, this power pak cartridge, while not used for rapid ascents for lung diving, will support TWO divers with full equipment at the surface. The release mechanism is very positive and cannot accidentally be pulled.

The vest can be inflated by mouth at or below the surface, and worn open or in pouch. "MAE WEST" in 9" x 2" x 6" nylon pouch complete with cartridge and harness.....**\$9.95**

Club price 6 or more \$9 each.

Extra power pak cartridges \$1.50 each.



SKIN DIVING JEWELRY

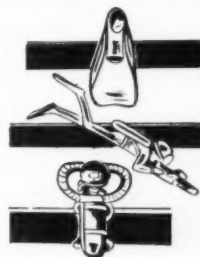
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The Diver with double tanks and torpedo type camera is available as a tie bar or tie bar and cuff link set only.

Tie Bars\$1.95 each
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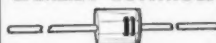
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"AQUA-LUNGS" IN STOCK

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2 for \$7.75

Underwater Book Shelf

A Guide To Underwater Photography

by Dimitri Rebikoff
and Paul Cherney

This is a guide for skin divers who want to photograph their activities and the sights under the sea. Complete information on equipment and techniques of submarine photography and movie making.

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American Seashells

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This beautiful big book, 541 pages plus 80 pages of color and black plates, paintings and drawings, covers definitive identifications of some 1500 varieties on Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf Coast shores.

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A Manual for Free Divers Using Compressed Air

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Underwater divers find this practical and realistic book complete on the mechanics and hazards of diving with self contained underwater breathing apparatus. Includes full discussion of the physiological aspects of diving.

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Filled with facts about underwater photography in lay language by an ace cameraman. Your problems solved by his many years of experience. Many photos with film, aperture, speed information.

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by Cmdr. Georges Houot
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From the intrepid frogmen of 480 B.C. to William Beebe's Bathysphere, from how to charm an octopus and scare a shark to sardines and whales. Our own prehistoric origins to the present offshore oil controversy, all these are but a few of the topics in this book.

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Everything a diver needs to know to insure safe and scientific diving. Written by Army and Navy authorities, medical specialists and experienced divers and trainers. Information on medical aspects of diving, gases used for scuba, repairs, currents, first aid.

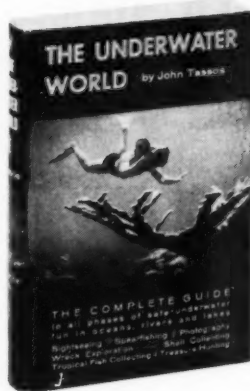
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The U.S. Navy Frogman in action throughout WW II and Korea. Underwater action from Normandy through the Pacific and climaxing in Korea. Underwater reconnaissance in the ice locked Arctic.

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by John Tassos

One of the country's well known free-lance writers who became a successful New York advertising executive has assembled a real "bible" for divers. An all-embracing book—a reminder for professionals, instruction for beginners. Tassos captures the reader in one of the most easily read and understood books in publication. A "must" says Earl Wilson—"that's for me" quotes Benny Goodman—"rare style" notes Hy Gardner—"I started diving with Tassos" remarks Vaughn Monroe.

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by Hans Hass

Adventures of Hans Hass and group in the coastal waters of Greece. The expedition was both a scientific field trip and a motion picture venture by which the author hoped to demonstrate his thesis that sharks are not really very dangerous to humans.

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1001 Lost, Buried or Sunken Treasures

by F. L. Coffman

A fascinating book of facts about treasure that will excite the armchair treasure-hunter and be of great use to the practical treasure hunter who is buying electronic equipment. Partial list of chapters include: Wrecks in the Caribbean, Great Lakes, Wrecks, Bayou Treasure, and most important, Treasure Trove Law and Its Application.

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Fascinating and intimate account of an important group of men who were the pioneers of this modern sport. Graphically describes what it means to swim underwater with animals of the sea.

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by F. L. Coffman

Today in our world there is 275 million dollars in lost, buried and sunken treasure whose existence has been authenticated. This atlas contains 44 four-color maps showing 3,047 treasure locations. A wonderfully practical book for those who realize that treasure hunting is becoming big business, and a skin diver is going to find the treasures first.

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The author's third book devoted to the sea is the culmination of a trilogy pointed to the exploration of a weird and wonderful land... the world beneath our oceans. If you have enjoyed Diole in past books, this one is his best.

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The first and perhaps the most entertaining book ever written on undersea adventure. A story compiled when the complete equipment consisted of goggles, knife and a hand spear. A "must" to add to your underwater literature.

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Up-to-date book on the various forms of self-contained diving. Noted expert and inventor tells all about when, where and how.

BOOK #9.....\$5.75

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by Edward T. Higgins

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To order books from this department please give the full name of the book desired and the book number. Be positive to print or type your full name and address on your letter. Send full amount of money for all of your purchases by check or money order payable to "Skin Diver".

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Lynwood, California

NEW SKIN DIVING FRONTIER

LA PARGUERA —

PUERTO RICO

On the southwest coast of Puerto Rico lies a skin diver's paradise . . .

It's La Parguera, situated between the majestic hills and silver bay of southwest Puerto Rico. Situated in a quiet fishing village—its climate healthful with continual trade winds cooling the beautiful tropical shores—it is a paradise for those loving the waters.

The little fishing town, far away from the hustle and bustle of large towns and cities, is near a body of water, reefs, mangrove islands and small peninsulas, ideal for fishing, skin diving, swimming and practically all other water sports.

From the beautiful Villa Parguera Hotel, its only development, one may see the wide landscape, east and west, of reefs, mangrove islands and silver shoals. Easily reached by air, via San Juan and Ponce and also approachable by car or bus, it is slowly becoming known to the world, and its new discoverers better make sure to make early reservations at the Villa Parguera Hotel.

It is not necessary to laud La Parguera's fishing importance, for every known specie of fish is in abundance. Its name derived from the Snapper fish is truly representative of the area. Fishing boats are available with experienced fishermen who are well acquainted with the many fishing spots at reefs, ports, bays and in deep water areas. Those who have been there, always return, as there is so much water to explore that a lifetime seems insufficient.

La Parguera's skin diving potential is great and not nearly sufficiently developed, as too few skin divers know about the area.

Over a dozen reefs, easily reached make it an ideal ground for spearfishing and underwater exploration. The coral gardens are magnificent and there is a large range of depths to choose from. Visibility around the reefs is always good and the underwater photographers will find it a haven for their pursuits. Temperature of water ranges from 76 to 82 degrees depending on depth and locality.

La Parguera's star attraction is the Villa Parguera Hotel, a beautifully constructed edifice blending well into the surrounding landscape and is not a

monstrosity as seen so often in some of our over-developed beach resorts. Villa Parguera offers a choice of rooms, complete dining hall overlooking the bay and an overzealous staff of men and women. Complete with swimming pool, nearby beaches and small picnic areas—it is the complete resort for all.

Tastefully decorated within by well known Puerto Rican artists, it has also become a center for the culturally inclined. Writers, poets, painters and composers have little difficulty with gaining inspiration at La Parguera.

There is a wide program of activities to choose from. Less than half-a-mile from shore is Maguey Island on which is found a complete zoo and a marine biology station. Besides, there are large open tanks where dolphins, sealions, barracudas, sharks and other large aquatic species may be seen. There is also a small aquarium. A little island apart from Maguey contains a monkey population.

By Stephan Tjaarda

Scientists and marine biologists center around the Marine Laboratory on Maguey Island and the first Inter-Insular Conference of Marine Biologists was held at Villa Parguera, last year. Villa Parguera has also catered to religious and social conferences since its short existence and has become a headquarters for many other cultural meetings.

But La Parguera never loses its simple dedication to the many Spanish and American families to which it caters specially. All day one may see children enriching their knowledge of the aquatic world, collecting shells and coral or splashing in the beautiful salt water pool. Never loud and noisy, La Parguera becomes a graceful fiesta on Saturday nights. Choice music bands from nearby towns play their wide variety of Spanish and Puerto Rican music. Cool outdoor and indoor dances suddenly enliven the darkness while old and young enjoy themselves. Here is a chance to

learn about the great variety of Spanish dances.

La Parguera is best known for its famous phosphorescent bay named El Botoncillo. It is one of three in the world and daily trips are made by boat and when the waters are agitated by wind and absence of moonlight. It is quite an experience when sailing through the dark waters of the bay to suddenly become affronted by a bright luminous spectacle which leaves a long lighted trail behind. Tiny myriads of micro-organisms that have the property of lighting up are the cause and marine scientists are still studying the why's and how's of their enormous concentrations.

Then, there is the beautiful beach of Mata De La Gata, where one may feel alone on an island—a little paradise all by itself. Exploring this island or swimming with fins, mask and snorkel to one of the nearby reefs is fun, too. Here, one may explore the dense mangrove jungle and view the undersea life.

Lying quietly in the crystal clear water, one may see the millions of young fish gathered underneath the mangrove roots, while at some areas one may even enter through tiny canals and swim with the fish as if in an aquarium!

Young barracudas will curiously observe you while you attempt to enter their domain and with a little effort you will become well versed in the many aquatic habits of fish.

The greatest experience however is the wide bay and its many reefs—twelve in total. Here are new frontiers to explore. One could call it the "complete Florida Keys" concentrated within a three mile radius! There are waters for everybody. Shallow areas for the beginner, deeper shoals for the more experienced and greater depths for the well-versed undersea sportsman. Coral species far extend in variety as observed in other Caribbean areas and shells are bountiful, too.

Three miles away stands the deep water range, ideal for deepsea fishermen. Here, too, are additional reefs for the advanced skin diver. Off Margarita Reef lies the wreck of the "Alicante" of which the anchors were salvaged a short time ago and wine bottles found intact. The wreck is waiting to be explored further and lies in water 15 to 30 feet deep. Many more wrecks are located in the area but man has not yet visited them. Besides the twelve reefs, there is the Bay of Montalva, the interesting islands of Cueva and Guanica. There is the wild life to be explored at Guayacan Island, through which crystal clear canals pass, ideal for skin divers.

So it is with La Parguera—a virgin aquatic field—waiting to be discovered by undersea explorers . . .

UNNECESSARY TRAGEDY

By Charles R. McNabb

With the aid of my able diving partner, Robert Boyd of Brooksville, Florida, I have just finished the unpleasant job of recovering the bodies of two seventeen year old divers.

A few hours ago they were normal, happy young men on a day's outing. Their day's objective—CAVE DIVING. The place—a small spring near Weeki Wachee Spring, Florida, known locally as Salt Spring. This spring has been explored by myself and others many times in the past and is known to have

a depth of at least 135 feet. It is a small, twisting spring that has two rather narrow places you must pass through before reaching the underground stream that forms the spring itself. This stream is approximately 125 feet deep at its entrance.

Three divers entered this narrow underground stream, 125 feet deep surrounded by tons of rock, unable to see the surface after passing through the first narrow crevice at 60 feet. Their object: a simple, curious exploration

dive. Their preparation: poor. The result: death for two, and a very narrow escape for the third. They entered this underwater cave with lights, and depth gauges, BUT WERE ONLY WEARING STANDARD TANKS (not enough air but for a very short time at this depth), and THEY DID NOT HAVE A LINE TO GUIDE THEM BACK TO THE SURFACE.

According to the diver who escaped, they then proceeded to swim some 75 feet down the underground stream be-



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fore deciding to turn back. At this point they started running out of air. Frantically searching for the very small hole they had entered, one diver's tank emptied. One offered him his mouthpiece, but he panicked and drowned in a matter of seconds. A moment later another tank emptied. The other two divers breathed from the one remaining tank that had air and searched for the hole. Then the remaining tank started to empty—this diver luckily was caught in the current and was pushed through the hole. He was forced to ascend alone on his now practically empty tank.

Two divers dead and one badly shaken up—FOR WHAT? A look at some rocks and sand 135 feet deep that looks no different than it does ten feet deep.

As you may know, I was the first diver to explore Silver Springs, Weeki Wachee Spring and many other Florida springs. I have written several articles about these explorations and have taken some unusual photographs during them. I have also had several narrow escapes. In all my articles I have very strongly emphasized the danger in cave diving and the thinking and preparation necessary to attempt this hazardous sport.

There are far too many people today that, having purchased diving equipment and learning to breathe from it, decide they are divers. Those of us that have been diving all these years, both for sport and as a profession, know the hazards and have been properly trained in the use of the equipment.

Until one has mastered the emergency techniques such as clearing your mask, clearing hose, breathing from another diver's mouthpiece, ditching equipment and making a free ascent, etc., **YOU ARE NOT A DIVER** but a potential accident. But most important of all after you have learned to use the equipment properly **USE GOOD JUDGMENT**.

There are many fine clubs, schools, etc., that can give the proper instruction

Louisiana . . .

GRAND ISLE TARPON RODEO

By Burnie Dodge

The State of Louisiana has the words "Sportsman Paradise" printed in pretty letters on its license plates. In recent years, sportsmen of all kinds have found this to be very true.

Line fishermen have found the fresh and salt water fishing to be tops, now the skin diver is finding the best water and largest fish right out in the Gulf of Mexico.

Skin diving competition is getting a good boost with a special division in the Annual Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo held every July at Grand Isle, La. This year was the third year that this division has been included and if the participation keeps increasing like it has, we will have to have a Rodeo of our own.

in diving techniques, but no one can give you the judgment necessary to stay alive.

There have been, to the best of my knowledge, four deaths now from cave diving in Florida.

I can only hope that God grant every diver a mental picture of the two bodies as I saw them lifeless in their watery tomb.

Know your equipment and know your own limitations. Life is too precious to waste. ➤

This year the Rodeo was held on July 17, 18, and 19 with about 50 skin divers entered. The weather had been very bad for about a month, but it cleared up just long enough for the rodeo to be a huge success.

The "Bajaos" and "Dixie" Divers were the only active clubs entered along with a few independent teams. The competitive spirit was very high among all divers. The "Bajaos" used a boat which everyone admits is perfect for diving. It has a special platform on the back with two ladders for entering and leaving the water, special holders for 22 tanks and storage tanks for refilling 20 tanks.

There were six different boats used for diving and everyone was out at sunrise to catch the largest fish. For three beautiful days, fish of all kinds and sizes were shot and entered. Some of us were plagued with bad luck, that is, sharks, broken rudder, split seams, and more sharks, but after all was finished here were the results:

JEW FISH—495 lbs. (a new record)
Arnoult, Charm, Lambert and Hill
(Independent)
BARRACUDA—39 lbs.
Shocmaker (Dixie)
RED SNAPPER—14 lbs.
Riviere, Smith and Peperone
(Dixie)
SHEEPSHEAD—5 lbs. 2 oz.
Nelson (Bajaos)
COBIA—46¾ lbs.
Riviere, Smith and Peperone
(Dixie)
JACK FISH—26½ lbs.
Means, Bonck and Alba (Dixie)

The "Dixie" divers again took the cream of the crop, but the Bajaos have served notice that they will put out so many teams next year, every trophy will end up in their den. On the winning Jew Fish team, Arnoult is a member of the "Bajaos" and Lambert is a member of the "Dixie" divers.

Everyone down here in "Sportsman Paradise" is looking forward to next year and we wish to invite all of you divers to join us at any time. We will really show you a "Divers Paradise". ➤

Left Photo—McNabb removes the face mask from one of the bodies at the edge of Salt Spring.

Right Photo—Bob Boyd and McNabb ready their equipment for the terrible duty ahead. Photo taken from 16mm movie strips.



ARUBA, CARIBBEAN

SPEARFISHERMAN'S MECCA

My lobster-catching hobby first took me under the clear water around Aruba, in the Netherlands Antilles, when I was about seven years of age. "Get you off from the splashing waves," my parents told me in Papiamentu, the language of the island, when I arrived home to display my catch. But not then or since has any one been able to enforce that command.

Almost 20 years have passed since I first went spearing for lobsters, years in which I learned how to get rid of the hurt in my ears as I went deeper. Now I can spear fish in 50 to 60 feet of water without difficulty.

Every year new companions join me, for if the water about my island home in the Caribbean is not the best in the world for spearfishing, I cannot easily imagine better. Coral formations are within a few feet from shore in many places about the island. As you swim out the coral gets better, the fish become more plentiful and larger and the elkhorn coral and sea fans make the underwater scenery finer.

We have welcomed lungs, with double tanks, arbaletes and the increasing number of books about spearfishing. But much underwater lore we have taught ourselves.

Since the island of Aruba lies about 12 degrees north of the equator, cold never keeps us from the water. It lies

By Holmo F. Henriquez

south of the track of hurricanes that pester much of the Caribbean. The trade wind is strong, but it rarely rains except in the months from October through December, and then only in brief showers. You can always be confident that your fishing expedition will not be spoiled by bad weather.

When the constant trade winds are light, we can dive at Boca Mahos and other coves and bays on the windward northern coast of the island. Other times we can go to the reefs off the sheltered, leeward, southern coast, such as Skellehein and Caranito reefs, and the coral reef off the Eagle wharf.

A number of sunken ships about the island make fine underwater hunting territory. Some of the tragedies of the last war, when German submarines sank oil tankers off shore, have at least benefited the fishermen of Aruba. Among the sunken ships in which we hunt are the Pedernales, the Antilla, and the California. The last is almost 100 years old.

In the World War II ruins of the Antilla we have met a big jew fish, which we call here the "wassa." This creature, about seven feet long, weighs 600 to 700 pounds, and is right now the chief big game we are stalking. He has so far successfully retreated and thrown spears. But we always meet these fellows under the wrecks. The largest of this type we have so far harpooned is a 300-pound jew fish we conquered under the wreck of the California.

We have learned that when approaching a barracuda, we must be very quiet in the water. On such a hunt, the diver goes to the bottom and clamps his hand to a piece of rock, or iron, if he is near a wreck. Very slowly the curious barracuda approaches. We do not stalk him, we allow him to come up and investigate us. Sometimes we come back home with 35 to 40 barracudas, up to six feet in length.

We have learned, too, that we need not be afraid of sharks, if we are always on the alert and face them underwater. The trick is not to give them full confidence. I once harpooned one they call here the stupid shark, or the sand shark, but this creature was not stupid. He swam around and around me, until he ran me out of the water. As I went up, I kept the harpoon in his direction.

We have decided not to spear sharks since a twelve foot yellow shark swam off with a brand new spear. It is not the species of shark, but the individual, that is more or less aggressive, we think.

One of our most vigorous fights was with a moray eel that measured six feet four inches long and weighed about 60 pounds. We had harpooned eels before, but never saw one fighting like this. He came at me when I dived to a big cave in the reef to get a speared fish. The harpoon of a friend saved me from

DIG FOR PIRATE TREASURE

By ROBERT I. NESMITH

The Devin—Adair Company, New York, 1958
Review by Stephan H. Tjaarda

Dig for Pirate Treasure tells about the men who are finding treasure left by pirates and buccaneers. The book is about sunken galleons known to be loaded with treasure and still waiting to be discovered. Robert I. Nesmith conducts his own research bureau, "Foul Anchor Archives", which contains more than 400 volumes on pirates and pirate treasures, including many unpublished manuscripts, papers and charts. Next to "Quest Associates", and "Oceanic Research Associates", "Foul Anchor Archives" makes a third party in the field of original underwater research. There are chapters on Captain Kidd, The Treasure of Silver Shoals, Oak Island's Secret, Hell Gate, Cocos Island Millions and other phases of underwater history. Mr. Nesmith is especially well versed on the coins of pirate days, and a host of illustrations and photographs of pieces of eight, doubloons and other coins is found in the book, counting over 300 pages. Dig for Pirate Treasure is not a fairy tale . . . The writer implies clearly that accurate maps and information regarding buried treasure and lost mines are non-existent. He implies further that if they did exist the treasure would not have been lost!

This book is one of the few realistic ones found in the field of salvaging and treasure hunting. There are plenty of case histories to be found. Mr. Nesmith clearly states in the beginning:

"Some of the costliest professional expeditions in history have turned up nothing—while amateurs digging with their fingers have uncovered 1000 items in cash or otherwise. It can be located under the sea with masks and fins or in the clear green water with a glass-bottomed bucket from a skiff. An abundance of treasure is waiting . . ."

his lunge. With three of us in the water, it took us an hour and a half's battle with the monstrous eel before we succeeded in boating it. We can still see the marks of its teeth in the boat where it attacked a boat seat, broken by its thrashing.

Today I have a sail boat with an auxiliary and a small boat of about 14 feet that will carry us all around the island. My diving companion, Herman Ponson, and I enjoy showing visiting spearfishermen our choice spots.

One of the most pleasant things following such an expedition is a breakfast in the countryside, which we call the "cunucu," of Aruban fish soup. A special Aruban herb gives the soup we make a distinctive flavor, and a legend of the island is that anyone who tastes this spice always returns to Aruba. ☛

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NAVY ORDNANCE DIVERS

Although divers are anything but unique to the Navy, the divers at the Morris Dam (California) facility of the Naval Ordnance Test Station have a unique job. Working at depths of from 100 to 170 feet, they recover underwater ordnance which is used again and again for test purposes. Small in number, the crew of from 5 to 7 divers enable the Navy to reuse underwater ordnance many times.

To qualify for duty at Morris Dam, the divers must be graduates of the Navy's deep sea divers school at Washington, D.C. They must be first class divers. They must be able to meet exceedingly high physical standards and must continue to be in top physical condition.

The main function of the divers is to recover experimental ordnance which is tested at Morris Dam. Used to test the ordnance is a Variable Angle Launcher (VAL), called the largest air gun in the world. It has two 300-foot launching tubes through which torpedoes or other projectiles can be blown into the water by compressed air. Another testing device is the Slingshot Launcher. With this facility, large projectiles can be raised on a cable up to 160 feet and slung into the water below. The divers then make recovery so that

By Robert L. Schlichenmaier

Diving Officer

Morris Dam Test Range

data evaluation may be made and the ordnance reused again and again.

Although the divers are qualified to work with three types of equipment—shallow water type, standard deep sea type, and the aqua lung—practically all of the work at Morris Dam is done with the deep sea equipment, due to the depth and temperature of the water. From 100 to 170 feet, the water temperature the year round is about 50° F warming up only when the divers reach the 50-foot level when surfacing. The lake is fed by mountain streams mostly which accounts for the cold temperature of the water. The contours below water are representative of the surrounding mountains—steep cliffs and huge rocks sloping off to a deeper silty bottom.

The deep sea equipment which the divers must use weighs a total of 190 pounds—the helmet weighs 54 pounds, the belt 83, the suit 18 and the shoes 35.

From 70 feet on downward, the divers search by "feel," there being no visibility at this depth. Ordnance is located by a patterned search while on the bottom of the lake. Use of circling lines, probs, and magnetic detection equipment assist the recovery. The diver is guided from the barge on the surface and given directions for search—use of magnetic device is excellent although at times, it can be very misleading. Nuts, bolts, and any metal having magnetic properties can render a long cold dive fruitless.

While the divers are down, continuous communications are maintained with the tender on the surface—the tender relaying the reading to the diver below in order that he may search the area of highest intensity.

An all-steel 21 x 35-foot barge is completely rigged and outfitted. A deck house holds all the diving equipment, radio gear, generators, pumps for washing weapons out of mud, and winches. The barge is propelled by a huge outboard diesel engine commonly called a Sea Mule. Air for the divers is supplied from a bank of high pressure air adequate to supply air for several divers for a day's operations.

Safety is so instilled in the minds of the divers, there is little use for the single lock decompression chamber which is located at Morris Dam other than for generally determining the capability of new men. The Morris Dam facility is geographically so remote that assistance from other diving units would not readily be available. Whenever operating in depths where bends or decompression illness could more easily occur, a sense of safety has to always be present leaving no corners to cut.

Occasionally the divers at Morris Dam are called to San Clemente Island (another Navy facility maintained by the Naval Ordnance Test Station). Here, the Navy maintains an area for testing ordnance under Fleet conditions. And it is here that the divers use other types of diving equipment—mostly SCUBA or what is commonly called a "Frogman" outfit. The job of the divers here is to place cameras underwater in strategic locations or perform ordnance search. They are sometimes called on to perform underwater work on small craft maintained by the Navy.

Let's find out a little about these men who are so at home underwater—Most of the men in the crew at Morris Dam have been in the Navy for a number of years, the actual average is 16. The master diver has been in the Navy 22 years and has been diving for over 20 years. The average age of the men is 34 years. Needless to say, these statistics indicate the lasting calling of the profession of diving in the Navy.

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH U. S. NAVY



SKIN DIVER—September 1958

MAN'S CONQUEST OF THE APPROACHES TO THE SEA

By Bill North

Skin divers are wonderful people. They are opening the earth's last frontier; and against rough odds. I'm not a skin diver myself, but I attended a New Jersey spearfishing club meeting and learned quite a bit about the call of the sea.

I'm glad I went, because it cleared up a lot of mistaken ideas I had about diving in the deep. I thought that the dauntless spearfishermen were constantly concerned about sharks, barracuda, octopus, shifting wrecks and treacherous currents. This isn't so. I learned that the real skin diver is the man who can face up to the problems of linefishermen, life guards and beach-front home owners who zealously guard the approaches to the sea.

Let's take the last first. I expected part of the meeting to be given over to a discussion of how to locate fish. But no, the discussion was how to locate the water. After hearing the plight of the underwater spearfisherman, I'm completely sympathetic. Miles and miles of waterfront are off limits. Private homes, private beaches, public property and private property have in many areas virtually marooned the skin diver inland. The spots where a spearfisherman can enter the ocean are few. By spreading the word about these remaining places, the club provides a real service to its members.

The water that is most easily accessible to these pioneers of the deep doesn't always produce the most fish or the most interesting wrecks. In order to expand his diving area, the skin diver has become amazingly resourceful.

In describing their approach to the water, the members of the club showed they were of two types, the geographers and the "nice guys." The geographers relied on a keen mind and sure knowledge of where their flippers stood. The "nice guys" used a warming smile and knowledge of human nature.

The geographer type has my admiration. They are certainly masters of their art. They know within inches the borderline for every municipality down nearly one hundred miles of coast. They know each jetty and bulkhead and under whose jurisdiction it falls. Their minds, thirsting for knowledge, have gobbled up every ordinance and ruling affecting them in their area. Secure in the right, they can face up to sheriff, constable, linefisherman or lifeguard. Their intelligence doesn't end here, for

they are thoroughly familiar with riparian rights and local bathing beach regulations.

The "nice guys" use other skills in getting near the water. When caught enroute to the surf, web-footed in someone's azalea bushes, he apologizes profusely. He explains that he is lost and should have known better because azaleas are his mother's favorite flower. He notices and comments on how well the grounds are kept. He singles out the blue-bearded daisies and praises the home owner for being able to grow them so near salt water. This commentary, delivered with sincerity, is followed by an offer to be helpful. Perhaps the skin diver can perform some service such as ridding the lawn of moles with his speargun. If the home owner isn't ready to tear up the azaleas



and lay a path to the sea, the skin diver has failed in some way.

Several "fool proof" methods of getting to the ocean were given by club members. One dropped into a river from a bridge and drifted down to the sea. His chief concern was the "no fishing" sign on the bridge. Did it apply to him? A large group of club members entered the sea only by way of a jetty or bulkhead put up by the federal government. Their feeling was that they were under the protection of the FBI and federal troops when they chose this route.

Standing solidly between the skin diver and the ocean during most of the season are the bathing beach life guards. This group gnashes its teeth in rage when they see the skin diver on their range. They can't be blamed entirely. More than one life guard has dashed madly off to the rescue of a head bobbing far off to sea, only to find that it was a skin diver. This becomes an even more crushing blow when the spearfisherman has to drag the worn out life guard back to the beach. The life-guard deserves some sympathy. Once he was the idol of the beach. Today the signs are directed seaward, toward the men with the snorkels.

The president adjourned the meeting on a positive note. He announced that a speaker at the next meeting would discuss, "Free parking spots along the Jersey coast." Don't miss it. ➤

SCIENCE for Divers

By ED GUERNSEY, JR.

Preserving Marine Botany Specimens

Great care is exercised in preparing specimens for microscopic examination. Specimens used in this field are usually sectioned (cut) and stained. Chamberlain's "Methods in Plant Histology," gives detailed information covering all types of botanical specimens. However, the TURTOX Universal Fixative is good for all purpose work and can be purchased from the General Biological Supply House, So. Hoyne Ave., Chicago, or made as follows:

Alcohol, 50%.....	100 cc.
Formalin, 40%.....	6 1/2 cc.
Glacial acetic acid.....	2 1/2 cc.

This is an excellent plant tissue fixative, and they can be kept without harm indefinitely.

The following formula is used to keep green algae in its natural state.

Water (Distilled).....	500 cc.
Formalin (40%).....	5 cc.
Potassium chrome alum.....	10 gms.

Most algae prepared in this formula will be well preserved.

Botanical specimens used as display purposes are either kept in a fluid or presented dry in herbarium collections. Green plants are fixed in the above mentioned solution and then placed in a clear glass jar containing a 4% formalin solution. As mentioned before, little work has been done to perfect good preservatives. Any persons interested and who produce good formulae will be richly rewarded for their efforts.

Herbarium specimens are those which have been pressed to a standard mounting paper obtainable from biological supply houses. Fleshy specimens are dried prior to the mounting stage. Heavy blotting paper is used to dry all specimens, and in some cases oven are used to increase the temperature and quicken the drying process.

The specimen is placed in a drying blotter (or portfolio) after it has been properly set in place. Most marine forms are delicate and require careful handling. Leave the specimen for a day, and change the blotters on the following day if necessary. Used blotters sun dry easily. It takes approximately one to two weeks for drying a specimen.

Herbarium specimens are attached to the mounting sheets by spreading glue on a piece of glass. The specimen is placed on the glass and when the entire underside is coated it is transferred to

DIVING THE INLAND SEAS

By TED NIXON

The Inland Seas, for the benefit of those not familiar with the largest bodies of fresh water in the United States, are the Great Lakes. The Lakes, as they are called by the nearby residents, are not only the best diving waters in the midwest but they are also the busiest waters in the world. These waters, which afford transportation for some of the largest cargo ships in the world, by the same token also afford the most interesting and profitable diving for underneath the clear blue waters of the Lakes lie more than 7,000 recorded wrecks. These wrecks are located in all parts of the Lakes, in both shallow and deep water. Some of the more easily accessible ships that lie on the bottom of the Lakes are the Material Service, the Ana C. Minch, Westmoreland, and in Lake Charlevoix lies the good ship Cuka. This wreck is in about 50 feet of water and is almost entirely intact, which makes it very interesting to dive on.

For the Treasure seeking diver one of the most profitable areas in which to dive is only about 60 miles from the metropolitan area of Detroit. One of the more enterprising diving shops in the Flint area has planted a treasure right in Lake Fenton (Long Lake) just 12 miles south of Flint. Diver's Supply, G-4152 Fenton Rd., Flint, has planted a can and anchor in Lake Fenton that, when retrieved by a diver, is worth \$25.00 in cash. This can is painted orange-red and has white wording on it as follows: TREASURE! WORTH \$25.00 WHEN RETURNED TO DIVERS SUPPLY. Dale Pierce and Doc Dockery, owner's of Diver's Supply, have

the mounting paper for permanency. There are other methods, however this is one of the best. Transparent cellophane is used to cover the mounting sheets, thus keeping them free from dust and rough usage.

Herbarium specimens should be fumigated with carbon bisulphide at least four times a year. This protects the specimens from many pests.

This field needs a great deal of work and possibly one of America's divers will provide some of the answers. »

a map of Lake Fenton on the wall of their shop with the area where the Treasure is located marked off. Doc and Dale invite all divers that happen to be in the Flint area to stop in, check the map, and try their luck at locating the Treasure.

In the Chicago area both Dan's Diving Den, of Naperville, and West Suburban Diver's Supply, of Elmhurst, have large portable compressors that they will transport and make available to any club function within the Greater Chicago Area.

I recently ran across an article in one of the local papers that should be quite interesting to many divers in the northwestern part of Indiana and western Michigan. Harold Van Nieman is planning to do some underwater photography of some of the many wrecks in Lake Michigan. Van Nieman at present is planning to dock his headquarters at the Twin Cities of Benton Harbor and St. Joseph, Mich. The object of his movies is for presentation on television.

Another thing of interest might be the raising of a sixteen foot Lone Star aluminum run about and a thirty-five horse power motor from Sister Lakes, Mich. by a group of divers from Coloma, New Troy, and St. Joseph, Mich. The divers had combed the forty foot depths of the lake for better than a week before the boat was finally located and raised.

Gene and Don Egendoerfer, owners of the Aqua Shop in Mishawaka, Ind., had been called to Lake James, near Angola, to look for a fisherman's boat and motor that had gone down. Although they were not successful in locating the boat and motor they did find a head lamp and also a five H.P. outboard, 1940 vintage, which they now have in working condition. The head lamp is believed to be from either a Brush Motor Car or a Stanley Steamer.

Up in Lake Geneva, Wis., which by the way is one of the best diving lakes in the mid-west, a very enterprising individual by the name of John Tesch is doing a bang up business in lung rentals and is also operating a first class air station at Fontana, Wis. John calls his place "Below the Thermocline."

A directive has recently been issued by the Michigan State Park Commission that requires all persons diving in, or from the shore of, a Michigan State Park, to have with them, while diving, a buoy and Divers Flag. So if you are planning to spend your vacation in one of Michigan's many beautiful state parks be sure that you have a flag and float so that you will not be prohibited from diving.

Jerry White and his wife, owners of White's Skin Diver Supply in Ann Arbor, Mich., are in the process of planning an excursion to British Hon-



John Tesch is very proud of his novel sign that he carries aloft on his jeep wagon. His diving shop is on the West end of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.



Ray Haaglund and his portable compressor ready to pump air for the Madison, Wis. Treasure Hunt.



Dale Pierce readies the \$25 Treasure just prior to the night dive during which the Treasure is planted in Lake Fenton.

duras for married couples only. The approximate cost of this excursion will be about \$300.00 per person and will include everything except liquor and tobacco including flight accommodations from Miami to the British Honduras. Those seeking further information can obtain it by writing to Jerry White, c/o White's Skin Diver Supply, 323 E. Hoover St., Ann Arbor, Mich.

I ran into one of those veteran experienced divers the other day that had just returned from spending his vacation in the Sunshine State and he claimed to be the first spearfisherman to have ever speared a live Gefiltefish! »

**New London
Submarine Base . . .**

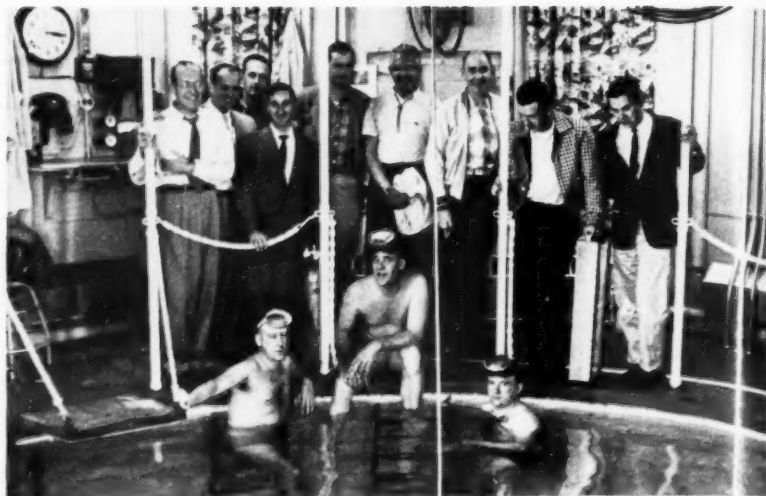
BUOYANT ESCAPE TECHNIQUE

By George Rappole

We of the Boston Sea Rovers hit it rich early this summer when 20 of us traveled by bus to the New London (Connecticut) Submarine Base. The date had been set up some six months before this, for the schedule they have there is a tight one with many requests for tours. It was well worth the wait.

Our guide was Commander, or Doctor, as you prefer, George Bond, sometime of Bat Cave, North Carolina (and of Reader's Digest and This is Your Life fame); a more helpful and informative expert in underwater diving would be hard to find. We were shown first, the new facilities being put into service for Medical Research, quite a bit of this centering on underwater sound problems, and hearing. Of interest to all divers is the research underway on the physiology of diving. This activity has many facets but the one of interest to Dr. Bond is investigation into diving mammals (other than man)—seals, otters, and whales. Since the whale is hardly a laboratory specimen, and the seal rather ugly tempered, Dr. Bond is now raising a group of otters to find out what happens to respiration, blood gases (oxygen, CO₂) and metabolic rates in these natural divers. It is also another line of inquiry for this group of research workers whether our normal "air" is the best for man, and what kinds of atmospheres will help men function better, whether underwater or in a normal environment. One project being planned is a long stay by some volunteers in an atmosphere of 4-5% oxygen, 55% helium and 45% nitrogen. (But let the Navy make the pilot experiments.)

From this installation we then made a fast tour of the USS Guardfish, one of the famous subs of World War II. This is now used as a training sub for new arrivals at the Base—firmly anchored at



Commander George Bond, seated center, gives members of the Boston Sea Rovers the full story of the training tank and the buoyant escape technique during their visit to the Submarine Base. —Photos by Paul Connolly.

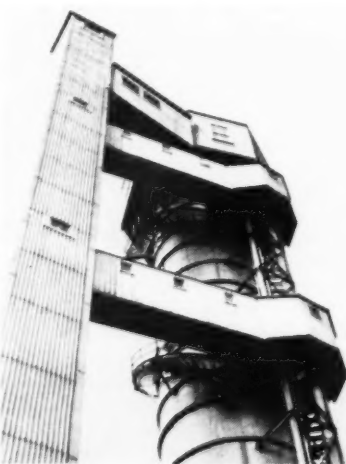
dock. This is probably no great novelty for many readers of this magazine, but for those of us who had never been on a sub before, this brief look (even at pre nuclear sub) was a startling revelation of this complex boat.

Then came the main item of the afternoon's visit—the Escape Training Tank. All submarine personnel must qualify in this technique—one now refined to give each man on sub surface duty a high chance of survival. First, Commander Bond and two other officers demonstrated to an astounded group the free ascent from the 100 ft. depth—what they call the bounce dive. (Lt. Hogan was down 1 minute, 50 seconds)—a useful technique for snorkel divers, but probably not as "easy" in open water as in the clear water of the tank. Actually a true free ascent (as described by David Owen in his *Manual for Free Divers*) is no longer the accepted Navy method for escape from a submarine. The Navy technique is now the buoyant escape, first developed by the British Navy. The key equipment here is a

modern "MaeWest" jacket, with an over pressure valve. This is first inflated by mouth while the person stands outside the tank in an air lock. The person then emerges into the tank (first at the 18 foot level and in successive stages going lower—50 ft. is maximum required, 100 ft. for those who wish). He then expels all the air he can from his lungs, then aided by the jacket's buoyancy pops to the surface. And, most important, he continues to expel the air from his lungs as he ascends with all force possible, since the residual air continues to expand, and needs to be forced out to prevent embolism. The ascent is most rapid.

After this demonstration, the group adjourned to watch a film on this technique, both in use in the tank and in open water. In the discussion that followed, we learned many things about diving and related problems—too many to enumerate here. First we learned that as far as this escape technique is concerned, that the free diver probably would not want to employ such a method—but would continue to use what would be a combination of the two—still a slower return to the surface in case of equipment failure or exhausting reserve supply—the one positive idea is the expulsion of the residual air in the lungs which continues to expand on an ascent following use of compressed air.

We were also interested in the use made by several of the men of a nose clip, under their mask. This clip had two springs over bridge of the nose, and two soft pads on each side of the nose. They consider use of such a clip makes "clearing" or "equalizing" easier. How we asked does a man clear his mask of water that might seep in—with this spring arrangement one can blow past it and still retain the clip. Due to lack



STARFISH CLEARED FROM BREAKWATER

Howard Conrad tosses one of the large starfish to the rocks. This one is in the process of opening a shell fish. Photo by Ed Gulley.



FATHOMIERS PLAN ANNUAL DERBY

Over ten thousand pounds of starfish were cleaned from the Federal Breakwater at Long Beach, California, during the Fathomiers Star Fish Derby in June. Twenty-five clubs with approximately 200 divers descended upon the starfish with Howard Patton taking the trophy for the largest starfish of the day, a two footer. The trophy was donated by Sunland Sports Lodge.

The starfish mop project was proposed at the California Council of Skin Diving Clubs during the winter with the Fathomiers offering to organize the event.

of supplies the author has not yet had a chance to try the system but it does sound feasible. The balance of the question and answer period centered around the problems of the physiology of man in diving. Much remains to be learned in this area, and by keeping watch in various medical journals, the reader can be apprised of the development in Naval research in this area.

We were all delighted by this visit, and the cordiality and helpfulness of the officers on this base. Insofar as time permits, the personnel in Naval diving will be more than willing to provide speakers and advice for interested local groups, on request. A new manual for divers is in preparation, and will be available from the Government late this year, if all goes on plan. The Navy, though not able to give official sanction to any training program, is interested in seeing some kind of program of instructor certification set up. Our hats are off to them.

Howard Patton, holding trophy, and Conrad look over the largest starfish taken from the breakwater measuring 24 inches. Lower right hand picture is of the Fathomiers Club who managed the Derby. Left to right are: Bob Garcia, Howard Conrad, Ed Gulley, Pete Sabrah and Al Schuck. Helping members not pictured were Mark Patterson, Tom Phillips, Red McCarthy and Bill Arnellis.

The project had the whole hearted approval of the California Department of Fish and Game because of the harm the starfish do to the beds of mussels, scallops and vegetation which attract and provide food for the fish along the breakwater.

The breakwater is a favorite fishing spot for many small boat fisherman, so in addition to performing a public service, we felt it would help promote good will between divers and fishermen.

Biggest problem was the disposal of the pests until the California Department of Fish and Game offered to take them out to sea and dump them, provided they were all in sacks. We made the rounds of all local markets and obtained most of the sacks we needed, Pete Sabrah who helped round up the sacks, also obtained many of the floats.

Transportation from Pierpoint to the breakwater and back was provided by several groups, Bill Lucas with his 48 foot Sea Shell, eight boats from the Power Divers, Dr. Blaisdel and his 48 foot Roberta, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla No. 103, Comm. Bill Mandot with his boat Miss Yippie 3rd, Jim Garver, skipper of the boat 'Tis Ours, John Fisher with his Star Lite.

Publicity for the derby was carried in all local papers, "Western Outdoor News", "Skin Diver" Magazine, radio, and television.

The Fathomiers plan to make the starfish derby an annual event.



WEST COAST SPEARFISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Twelve teams participated in the 10th Laguna Junior Chamber of Commerce West Coast Spearfishing Championships held at Laguna Beach—Divers Cove on Sunday, July 27. The three top Northern California teams from Bakersfield, Oakland and Sonoma, plus the two top teams from San Diego, along with the seven top teams from Southern California competed.

The MUIRMEN winning their third straight meet this year were the winners with 52 lbs. 15 oz. of fish, just 1 lb. 6 oz. ahead of the Long Beach Neptunes 51 lbs. 9 oz. (Defending West Coast and National Champions.) The Cormorants of Laguna Beach were third with 28 lbs. 1 oz.

Surf was slightly heavy with extremely poor water visibility. The water had a coffee-brown color from schools of plankton (Red Tide). In many places on the bottom, visibility was less than 1 or 2 feet. Top visibility was around 8 feet.

Terry Lentz of the Cormorants won individual total aggregate with 23 lbs., closely followed by Bob Weaver of the Long Beach Neptunes with 22 lbs. 6 oz. Del Wren of the Muirmen really had tough luck, he lost three full strings of fish (approx. 30 lbs.) from his paddle board when a brass snap broke. This would have given him close to 50 lbs. of fish and his team, the Muirmen, a comfortable margin to win by.

TEAM STANDINGS

1st Place Team Trophies and Perpetual Trophy donated by: W. J. Voit Rubber Co. — MUIRMEN (Wren, Jappe, Hops). 52 lbs. 15 oz.

2nd Place Team Trophies donated by: U.S. Divers Co.—LONG BEACH NEPTUNES (Weaver, Manicki, Sharp) 51 lbs. 9 oz.

3rd Place Team Trophies donated by: Abundavita Corp. — CORMORANTS (Lentz, Braillo, Avindano) 28 lbs. 1 oz.

Individual Total Aggregate Trophies donated by: Healthways. 1st—Terry Lentz (Cormorants)—23 lbs. 2nd—Bob Weaver (Long Beach Neptunes)—22 lbs. 6 oz. 3rd—Del Wren (Muirmen)—20 lbs. 13 oz.

Largest Fish Trophies donated by:

Dive N' Surf — 1st — Mas Sudahiro (Kelp Tangles) — 10 lbs. Sheephead. 2nd—Bob Weaver (Long Beach Neptunes)—5 lbs. 15 oz. Calico Bass. 3rd—Dick Jappe (Muirmen)—5 lbs. 8 oz. Calico Bass.



MUIRMEN—Dick Jappe, Del Wren and Frank Hops receive their newly won West Coast Championship trophy from Mel Barton, Voit representative. The Muirmen have won every competition entered thus far this year.

LATE LATE FLASH — Muirmen win National A.A.U. Competitive Skin Diving Championship in the Bahamas—August 17, 1958. Miami Skin Divers took second place; N. Y. Blackfish, third, and Long Beach Neptunes, fourth place. Full details in October issue.

WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF SKIN DIVING CLUBS

Compiled by

Ken Way, John Miller and Dick Klein

Crystal clear water, plenty of fish, wonderful weather and a fine turnout all contributed in making the YMCA Divers Club's recent weekend outing in the San Juans a tremendous success.

Evening rabbit hunting and community singing around the campfire added to the weekend's activities. As usual, Ed Wilson got the most fish, while Bob Roberts proved to be an old eagle eye by spotting two large octopi.

Chilly breezes from Lake Washington failed to slow down the YMCA Divers when they got together recently at Sand Point Naval Station for an authentic Hawaiian Laua. When the ukelele music began, those present found that Howard Smith shakes as mean a leg as he does a fin. That was a real fine hula, Smitty.

The 180 gallon salt water aquarium recently installed in the YMCA lobby has proved a fine attraction and is winning many new converts to our ranks. Stocked by the YMCA Divers and maintained by Gene Mason, a local Aquarist, the tank is completely self-contained, having its own refrigeration system and a special new filter developed by Mason.

The Northwest Championship held at

Lopez Island and sponsored by the Washington Council of Divers was a large success, what with most of the area in and around reef and shoals, with water visibility varying from 15 to 30 feet and the deepest water being only 60 feet. It allowed all of the divers to work any depth they desired.

First and second place was taken by the Puget Sound Mudsharks. First place team was Gary Keffler, Bill Mertz and John Tallman with 94 pounds of fish. Second place team was Jim Blanchard, Dale Dean and Dick Klein with 56 pounds 6 oz. Following very closely in third place with 55 pounds 11 oz. were Tom Amerman, Bob Holm and Dick Wald of the Oregon Skin Divers. The largest fish was speared by Bill Mertz, a 31 pound ling cod.

Victoria, B.C. held its first annual skin diving championship July 6th. The diving area was fabulous with clear water, plenty of fish and stiff competition. Sixty-six divers competed.

First and second place was taken by the Puget Sound Mudsharks. First place team was Glen Bates, Jim Blanchard, and Dale Dean with 85 pounds of fish. Second place team was Gary Keffler, Bill Mertz and John Tallman with 64 pounds.

Third place was Denny Compton, Allan Hook and Bill Hook of the Victoria Skin Divers bringing in 46 pounds of fish. Unfortunately, halibut could not be taken. They were seen up to 100 pounds in the diving area.

The Puget Sound Mudsharks would like to thank the Victoria Skin Divers for inviting them to their first annual championship meet held at Victoria, B.C.

On June 11th, the NOR'WEST DIV-

SKIN DIVER—September 1958

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ERS of Seattle gave the public a glimpse from out of the past. Camera-men from T.V. Channels 4, 5 and 7, were present along with the Press, the divers had retrieved an old "Admiralty" type anchor of sailing days vintage.

The anchor, weighing slightly over two tons had been floated in to the beach with the aid of eleven, 50-gallon drums, and the 36 foot cabin cruiser, the "Skin Diver."

It was located about a 1,000 yards from shore, buried deep in the soft bottom, in 65 feet of water.

The Seattle Park Department was present to lend a hand with their crane. The huge 4700 pound hand forged anchor was then lifted out of the water and placed on a waiting trailer. Covered with tube worms, barnacles, and remains of colorful sea anemones, the public could then get a much closer look at it.

It had short thick flukes, each fastened on with one rivet; the shank is six sided and 9 ft. high; the cross arm measured 9 ft. 3 in. long.

According to the report from the University of Washington, it was made of wrought iron, and guessing from the amount of rust that had accumulated it had been under the water between 75 to 100 years. Due to its eroded condition no identifying marks or stamps could be found.

The anchor was donated to the Seattle Parks Dept., and will be mounted at the Duamish Head Fishing Pier. The City is having a large bronze placard engraved with the club name and pertinent information.

Several TACOMA SCUBANEER members and their wives, recently were guests at the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club annual banquet and dance. The Scubaneers had rounded up a supply of Octopi for the affair which featured all kinds of sea foods. J. C. Dorsey, Hank La-Mont, Mike Sorber, and Jack Watson, burpingly report that they stuffed themselves on baked salmon, fried halibut cheeks, steamed butter clams, southern fried crab legs, shrimp, and octopus salad.

Ray Herbig has established a new local record for the Scubaneer Club by bagging a 48 pound Ling from the Tacoma Narrows.

Two other Scubaneer members, George Rolstad and Jim Sanders, successfully salvaged a converted 36 foot landing craft which sunk years ago in 8 fathoms of water, off the Tacoma waterfront. It took many hours of diving, in water where visibility was nil. And with the aid of a tug boat they got the wreck beached. They are now busy dismantling the craft for parts and soap.

NEW PRODUCTS



U. S. DIVERS—new "Jer-Foam" Neoprene is their Research Division's answer to the divers' need for a wet suit which provides maximum tear resistance, comfort, warmth and longest possible wear. Specially fabricated flexible Jersey which will not deteriorate in salt water is "sandwiched" between two layers of foam neoprene and cemented together to make a flexible integrated material (slick on the outsides). "Jer-Foam" is the ultimate today in Wet Suit development.



WATERTIGHT ZIPPER—for any front entry suit. Enter your suit in seconds with no extra help. Can be installed in your present suit. Standard length 32 inches, however any size can be made to order. Price—\$10.00 plus 12% custom duty to U.S.A. from: International Divers Corp., 917 Craig Street E., Montreal, Que., Canada.



THE SEAPEARL 600—New development assures perfect waterproof protection. The back adheres constantly to a plastic ring under pressure of a circular spring. Tested under conditions equal to 600 feet below sea level. Is the first watch with the complete Ultrasonic Process—assures no cleaning or oiling for three years. Price—\$26.95 from: Central Skindiver's, 160-09 Jamaica Ave., Jamaica 32, L.I., New York.



UNDERWATER SPOTLIGHT FOR SKIN DIVERS—Modeled after the popular Radar-Lite utility lantern, has been designed by Burgess Battery Company. 40,000 candle-power and a unified battery-and-case power pack consisting of two 6-volt lantern batteries wired in parallel to yield the most powerful unit of its type. Completely leakproof, the battery unit is entirely sealed in steel, to enable it to function to depths of 250 feet. It is priced at \$13.95 complete with pressurized battery. Skin divers' accessories include a practical over-the-shoulder web strap, priced at \$1.50, and an easily attached \$1.25 chrome wire grill which protects the lens during rough usage.





Jan Hall, of movie and television fame, waves the flag that marks the close of the Women's West Coast Underwater Spearfishing Meet.



Santa Monica Sea Lancers Toby Schreiber and Mary Mathers receive their first place trophy from Mel Barton, representing Voit Rubber Company.



Winning teams at the Michigan Council July 12 Spearfishing Tournament at McQuire Lake, Howell, Michigan, are, back row, First Place Ann Arbor Amphibians Don Crittenden, Robert Stepp and Robert Cooley; Second Place Wayne Aqua Men Neil Marvin and Paul Storzski; front row Third Place Ulita Scuba Divers Art Romska, Fred Duffy and Andrew Didyk. Photo by Thomas Stanzak.

FEMME SEA LANCERS TOP WEST COAST MEET

Facing an angry ocean, lipstick colored by the red tide, six teams of female underwater spearfishing contestants pushed their way through the foaming surf at Laguna Beach, California on July 27 to open the West Coast Women's Spearfishing Meet. Water conditions couldn't have been worse, the red tide lined the coastline from the tide mark to about a half mile out to sea and the waves were rolling into the beach with a fury. Actually the contest was more on the basis of girls against the ocean rather than to determine the team with the best spearfishing ability. Many of the contestants returned to the beach at the end of the three hour meet void of any fish on their stringers and amazed to see that they still had hands, not having seen them for several hours.

Winning the meet for the first time were the Santa Monica Sea Lancers. Team members were Toby Schreiber and Mary Mathers. Total aggregate weight and largest fish awards went to the Sea Lancers.

Taking second place in the meet were Newport Harbor Submariners members Alberta Grud and Marjorie Williamson. Third place honors went to Jeri Blakeslee and Martha Hall of the Dolphin Club. Other teams competing were the Ocean Oggles, Irene Kolar and Gladys Mercer; Mermaids, Ellen Rogers and Lillian Kemble (Defending Champions); and the San Diego representative Carol Gooding.

Trophies and awards for the events were donated by Voit Rubber Co., Swimaster, U.S. Divers Co. and Helms Foundation.

The Sea Lancers and the Mermaids left Southern California on Friday, August 7 for the National Competitions at the Grand Bahama Club to be held August 16 according to Kate Miller, Women's Chairman. Full results of the Women's National Competition will appear in the October issue.

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SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Listed below are the results of the Southeastern Regional A.A.U. Competitive Skin Diving Championships, comprising the states of Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and North and South Carolina, held at Panama City, Florida on July 19th.

FIRST PLACE—Florida A.A.U. represented by the Miami Skin Divers Club, 31 points. Divers—Delmonico, Dammann and Shinn. Boat captain—Bill Kalb.

SECOND PLACE—Southeastern A.A.U. represented by the Panama City Skin Divers Club, 16 points. Divers—Groom, Gwaltney and Waterfield. Boat captain—Gary Seymour.

THIRD PLACE—Georgia A.A.U. represented by the Atlanta Skin Divers Club, 6 points. Divers—Krasle, Vezzani and Peters. Boat captain—Chris Christiansen.

Individual Single Catch (largest)—Don Delmonico, 6 lb. 2 oz. grouper.

Individual Aggregate Award—Paul Dammann, 16 lbs.

The contest was held for a period of four hours in water depths of ten to fifty feet. The meet was held under very difficult weather conditions as three days of rain had preceded the meet, making diving a challenge to any of the contestants.

The Miami Skin Divers without question proved to be superior to the other teams entered and a good bet to win this year's A.A.U. National and International Championships at Grand Bahama Island.

The meet was very capably judged and coordinated by Ed Miller of Tallahassee, Florida, A.A.U. Vice National Chairman. ➤



Ed Miller congratulates the Miami Skin Divers team of Dammann, Shinn and DelMonico for their victory in the Southeastern Championships. Holding the winning catch are two Georgia lovelies Bonnie McMahon and Ginger Rubley, champions of their state.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Laguna Beach, California, July 20, 1958—The Junior Snorkels of Morro Beach won this event for the fourth consecutive year. Even though the members of the team change from year to year, the club's spearfishing ability never ceases to bring in the greatest weight of fish. The Junior Snorkels

members this year were Frank Seaman, Mike Smith and Stacy Holland and they did an excellent job of defeating the other six clubs entered in the meet.

Second placement in the Boys Club of Laguna Beach annual junior spearfishing contest went to the Northrop Junior Knights team of Paul Herron, John Ernst and Tom Lally. Winners of third place were Bud Knopf, John Mories and Dugan Yeakel of the Sea Cubs.

Teams in the running but not placing were the Hammerheads, Angus Mackay, John Ingram and Dick Elo; Kingfishers, John Hodges, Tom Dukit and John Potter; Long Beach Douglas Tridents, Bob Patton, Paul Freesmeier and John McClelland and the Southern California Comorants team, Jack McKeown, Steve Halt and Ron Hyde.

Dirty, rough water hampered the divers' abilities and the winning weight was very small in comparison to prior years. Bruce Pierce, director of the Boys Club, is to be congratulated for successfully running this meet for the past six years. This competition prepares the younger divers for the stiffer competition they will meet when they join the men in the A.A.U. meets. ➤



Junior Snorkels team of Seaman, Holland and Smith receive their first place medals from Laguna Beach Mayor Jess Riddle. Boys' Club Executive Director Bruce Pierce at left.

ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY—Latest underwater antic during this summer of underwater endurance record breakers is a diving bell available for underwater marriage ceremonies. An *Atlantic Citizen* has a diving bell available and will pay for the clergyman, wedding trip and enough furniture for a house to the couple willing to navigate the sea of matrimony like submariners. This isn't a first by any means. *Atlantic City's* last subaqua nuptials were performed 10 years ago.

SARASOTA, FLORIDA—An eight-year old boy, swimming with his parents in the shallows near **Longboat Key**, was attacked by a five foot shark. The youth's father carried him to shore with the shark's jaws still clamped around the boy's left thigh. The jaws had to be forcibly disengaged. Surgeons amputated the lad's leg close to the hip.

CHARLOTTENLUND, DENMARK — A **Danish** skin diver has discovered four **German** submarines. The four subs were believed sunk during **World War II**.

ANGOLA, INDIANA—A skin diver was called by conservation officers for a search of **Jimmerson Lake** near Angola after they discovered an unoccupied boat anchored in the center of the lake. While the officers were awaiting the arrival of the diver, the "drowned angler" was found drinking beer in a cool lakeside tavern. He said two thirsty friends had rowed past on way to the tavern and he changed boats and joined them. Officers withheld the fisherman's name while they searched for a charge that would apply.



OAHU, HAWAII—A number of complaints from local fishermen and skin and scuba divers off this and several of the other islands in the group indicate increase in number of sharks near shore. No fatalities so far, although one native sampan fisherman lost an arm less than a year ago. **Carl Nemoto**, marine biologist, is making repeated expeditions to catch sharks for computing an area shark census. Local canneries have quit using shark meat in their fish bait products and this is main reason claimed for the increase. Majority of species are sand sharks, with a few hammerhead and tiger sharks reported. If the increase shows further gain the territory will place a bounty on them and make shark killing both rewarding and lucrative.

ARTIC—An 18 year old **Montreal, Canada**, skin diver went swimming in the stormy, 10 below zero weather in the **Arctic** last winter in aid of international science. **Donat Gosselin** dived through a hole chopped through one foot of ice in **Brevoort Harbor** on the southeast coast of **Baffin Island** to replace equipment being used to measure **Arctic** tides for the **International Geophysical Year**. He made three dives of ten minutes each to a depth of 20 feet. A member of the technical survey department's hydrographic service said **Gosselin** actually dived into water which was cold enough (30 degrees) to freeze him solid over a period. As a diver on the expedition he received \$30 a day and \$50 a day when he was diving.

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS—When a 14 year old negro boy, a non-swimmer, drowned in **Big Eleven Lake** in **May**, firemen and police requested aid from the **Kansas City Frogman Club, Inc.** Six members arrived at the scene and in fifteen minutes **Bill Crabb** had recovered the body, floating about 25 feet beneath the surface. The **KC Frogmen** were again called into action less than 24 hours after crawling from the muddy **Missouri River** near the **Chouteau Bridge** to the same spot where a car had rolled backwards into the water, trapping a 15 year old girl. With the aid of grappling hooks and winches, the car was brought to the surface and the victim removed.

ROFF'S COVE, KEUKA LAKE, NEW YORK—A \$1,000 reward was offered by the family of **John M. Semple** of **Hammondsport, N. Y.** for the recovery of his body from **Keuka Lake**. Extensive dragging operations were carried out by local police and the conservation department officer. In another phase of the search a hard hat diver using closed circuit television scanned the bottom. The **Finger Lake Fathomers** using scuba and cold water dress executed bottom searches with underwater sleds. Water temperature ranged in the low 40's. Depths down to 130 feet were covered by the sleds although light penetration was negligible below 90 feet. Smaller and less accessible areas were covered by the buddy system. All searches have so far been in vain and it is feared the body may have gone down into the extreme deep depths never to be recovered.

HERMANUS, SOUTH AFRICA—A skin diver claims to have found the wreck of the **British** ship, **Birkenhead**, which sank off **Danger Point** 106 yrs. ago carrying all but 192 of the over 600 persons aboard with her. The troopship was reportedly carrying more than £1,000,000 (then worth \$5 million) in gold sovereigns. History has it that after the ship struck a sunken reef the 500 soldiers stood in their ranks as the ship went down—after putting the women and children in the small boats. The diver, **Nick Dekker** made the first attempt to reach the wreck but reported water was so murky he was unable to see his hand in front of his mask.

UTICA, MICHIGAN—The **Utica Scuba Divers Club** has again assisted the police in recovering the body of a **Detroit** youth who drowned at a night swimming party. The body was recovered from 17 feet of water at 11:48 p.m. minutes after he disappeared 50 feet from the bank of an old water filled gravel pit. The body was recovered by **Elmer Klock** only eight minutes after he began his search.

LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA — **Summer Hardy** and **Donald Bray** of **Lancaster** recovered a seventeen foot mahogany planked hull inboard speedboat with a 1955 **Buick** engine from 90 feet in **Lake Isabella**. **Hardy** attached a quarter inch steel cable to the boat which permitted a winch to pull the boat to the surface. Visibility on the bottom was from one to three inches. The owner of the boat is **James Gilmer** of **South Gate, California**.

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Medical officers of the U.S. Navy find that permanent physiological changes occur in frogmen after they have been diving for some time. Their bodies adapt in various ways so that they can tolerate underwater pressures that other persons cannot.

CENTER HILL LAKE, TENNESSEE—A diver has observed that most anglers here were fishing at depths of 15 to 20 feet for bass when the fish were concentrated in warmer waters in the five to 10 foot level.

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON — Phil Taylor speared an albino tench while diving at Loon Lake. The tench was white with a few gold and black markings. The albino taken by the diver weighed about two pounds and was 15 inches long.

LOUISBOURG, CANADA—Members of the Cape Breton Sub Aqua Club are undertaking a project of surfacing a two ton cannon for the bicentenary celebration at Louisbourg.

ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI—A Kansas City skin diver, Ralph Poplar, replaced an outlet pipe in a nearby fishing lake. The five hour job was performed in 45 feet of pitch black, 55 degree water. The actual work took but a short time, but finding the pipe was the problem—it was one inch in diameter.

ALBENGA, ITALY—Two engineers, Leo Berti and Cino Boccazzi, in describing underwater field trips at a recent Congress of Underwater Archeology here tell of discovering a vast undersea treasure chest. In exploring the seabed of the Adriatic near Venice they found Roman villas and temples. Other archeologists at the Congress told of finding Roman, Greek or possibly Etruscan or Carthaginian ships, Roman or Etruscan cities, traces of city streets and roads of the time of the Caesars and sunken Roman baths and vaults. Two amateur archeologists claim they have discovered Bronze Age swords and helmets in the beds of the Plave and Silla River.

LAKEVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS — Two divers have begun an unusual hobby after recovering over 6000 fishing sinkers, plugs and fishing equipment in four days from the Cape Cod Canal. One of the divers is now collecting sinkers and has over 200 different kinds including one over 30 years old.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA—The Water Raiders and Sub Surfacers working together in a nine man group located and recovered the body of a water skier in Wawasee Lake. The 17-year-old boy fell from the front of a boat and was hit in the head by the prop of the outboard. Police notified the clubs after four days of unsuccessful dragging operations. The divers found the body in 55 feet of water during the first 30 minute dive.

GALVESTON, TEXAS—Jack Rudder, diver of Lake Jackson, freed a Coast Guard boat that was crippled by its own tow line while working out of Galveston. Jackson worked about 20 minutes prying loose manila rope that had become entangled in the boat's two propellers.

CLEARWATER, FLORIDA—Is this a record—giant, black-helmeted conch measuring 11½ inches across? The huge shell was discovered by three members of the Clearwater Reef Riders while diving in 65 feet of water about 25 miles offshore. Curator of the Clearwater SeaOrama in the Marina said the largest conch of this type she had recorded was only nine inches.

BURLINGAME, CALIFORNIA—Dr. Robert W. Keast has regained his world record for breath holding underwater. The doctor, after hyperventilating on oxygen, remained at the bottom of the Burlingame Country Club pool 13 minutes 35 seconds. Dr. Keast's old record was broken just a few months ago by a friend, Al Giddings of Fairfax who stayed down 11 minutes 40.5 seconds.

GAY HEAD, MASSACHUSETTS—Four skin divers discovered the skeleton of a pilot strapped into the cockpit of a sunken Navy fighter plane. Coast Guard thought the victim might be Lt. jg William Cox who disappeared May 1. However, the divers felt the wreckage could undoubtedly date back to World War II because of the overgrowth of marine life on the plane and the bare bones scattered in the wreckage.

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA—John Nasworthy Jr., a member of the Savannah Skin Divers Association, spent several hours in Wilmington River in an unsuccessful attempt to find Rebel, a Boston terrier pet that drowned when it fell from a boat.

NEWPORT, OREGON — "Operation Reef Blow" of Georgia Pacific Corporation's program to eliminate troubles along the Newport beach area by extension of its pipeline seaward and beyond the present rocky reefs took on an aspect of almost warlike preparedness when a helicopter, skin divers, Coast Guardsmen and G-P engineers and powdermen worked to place almost a ton of dynamite on the reef.

GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO—Skin divers were rushed to the Colorado River near Palisade to search for a radioactive capsule which could have contaminated the Colorado River down to the California border. The truck carrying the capsule plunged into the river after the driver lost control. The divers located the truck and the truck and its radioactive cargo were pulled to the surface and shore by a crane.

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS—Bill Hesse and Charles Wood recovered a woman's \$2000 diamond ring from the mud on the bottom of Pleasure Bay in South Boston.

An underwater safari that started September 7 will wind up October 2 with an underwater look of the Mediterranean under its belt. The tour conducted by Swissair will include a visit to the underwater Valley of San Fruttuoso with the famous statue of Christ 60 feet down, Capri, Rome and the island of Elba.

MIAMI, FLORIDA—Paul Nixon, a charter boat skin diver, recovered an ancient cannon from a sunken Spanish ship believed over 300 years old. Nixon plans to hoist other relics from the wreck.

CORNWALL, ONTARIO, CANADA — A skin diver was used in placing a can of nitron in underwater holes in preparation for a blast which will demolish the key cofferdam of the St. Lawrence Power Project. The project to date has used approximately 20 million pounds of explosives on the Canadian side of the border and another 2 million pounds will be employed before the official opening of the seaway next year.

DENISON, TEXAS—A Denison skin diver was injured when his scuba tank exploded in his back yard when he apparently over-filled the 1500 pound capacity tank. The diver suffered deep scalp lacerations when the lung blew up and was rushed to a hospital. Neighbors in the area though a jet had exploded.

PORTLAND, OREGON—Peter J. Weyhrich received a deep laceration on his right knee when he struck a sharp object while searching in the Columbia River for the bodies of two girls who drowned.

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA—Skin divers aboard the carrier Antietam grabbed tanks and equipment when a helicopter attempting to land on the carrier plunged into the sea. Three of the crew escaped, but the pilot was trapped inside the craft. Divers and a salvage crew pulled the copter and its victim to the surface.

HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA—James Donlin lands his catch, a five and a half foot sand shark by hand, after his spear came loose in the struggle to bring the shark to the beach. Donlin and a companion, Joe Kenney, spotted the shark 15 feet off the beach while cleaning fish they had speared during the afternoon.

FRANCE—Luis Marden of National Geographic Society came from Mexico to attend the International Congress of Underwater Archeology with Gill Faure. The pair dived on Roman wrecks located in the French Mediterranean.

BOISE, IDAHO—Bob Jones, a member of the Air Force Reserve diving team, Flying Frogmen, believes he has established the first class to receive Los Angeles County diving certificates the farthest from the LA area. Jones, who is a certified county instructor, recently taught a class of eight students in Boise, Idaho.

JACKSON, MICHIGAN—Paul Marlett and Phill Harrington of the Inland Aqua Divers located the body of Richard Beemer who drowned when he was thrown from a power boat at Wampplers Lake. After searching without success in the darkness, the sheriff summoned skin divers to aid in the search. The body was located about three hours later.

MIAMI, FLORIDA — Four divers have formed a company, Treasure Quest, Ltd., and have claimed salvage rights to a ghost of a ship located just off the coast in 20 feet of water. So far the divers have located seven cannons, the smallest a four foot 500 pound swivel cannon which they brought up. The hunt started some months ago when Larry Seigler of the El Sombrero Motel spotted two cannons and an anchor.

MARITZBURG, SOUTH AFRICA—Chairman of the Natal Parks Game and Fish Preservation Board explained why Natal skin divers will have to take out licenses before they can spearfish. The licenses will not be the same as firearm licenses, but that divers were using implements to kill fish. The proposed new ordinance will protect certain forms of fish life including crayfish, mussels and oysters.

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA—A body section of Douglas' DC8 jetliner made underwater "flights," "landings" and "take-offs" equivalent to 100 years of service before the first of the transports became airborne. Divers were of assistance in the more than 119,000 test cycles before the DC8 made its test flight May 30.

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS—An angler landed a rare specimen recently while fishing off the Hyannis Port Breakwater for cod. He had been working with light tackle but switched to heavier gear on a hunch. He made a cast, felt his hook set in something and begin to haul in. As he pulled his quarry to the surface he found he had hooked and was landing . . . a skin diver.



Let's talk about . . .

UNDERSEA PHOTOGRAPHY

By

ERNEST H. BROOKS

President and Founder

Brooks Institute of Photography

In last month's column, I discussed the unusual telephoto effect that occurs when a camera with a normal focal length lens is used underwater, and the subsequent loss in depth of field. At that time I suggested using a high speed film, exposed at a comparatively small aperture, to overcome this difficulty.

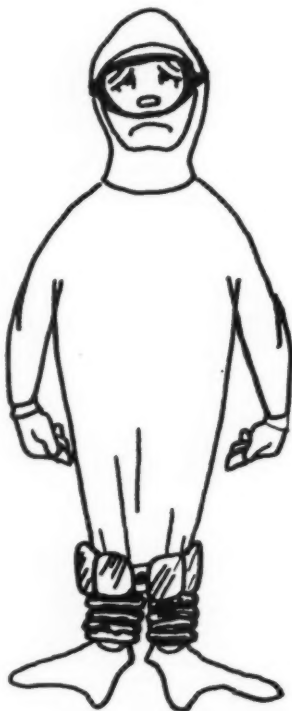
This month I wish to discuss with you one of the major problems of underwater photographers which is obtaining black-and-white photographs of proper contrast and density. To achieve the desired results, it is necessary to establish the proper exposure-development combination for the conditions under which you are working. The importance of these factors is due to the fact that the density of a negative (the intensity of the recorded image) is determined by the amount of exposure, and the contrast (the range of tonal gradations from black to white) by the amount of development.

To provide you with a means of determining the proper relationship, the Brooks Institute has prepared the following procedure, which if followed correctly will insure standard results in your photographic efforts. This test should be conducted in the same area, at the same depth and during those hours of the day that you normally dive. You can use this procedure to test any film-developer combination. In our example, we will refer to Tri-X film and FR X-500 developer, which I recently used in making a series of tests in the waters off the western coast of Mexico, and found to be very satisfactory.

Now, load your camera with Tri-X, set the exposure meter for an ASA rating of 800 and go down to the depth in which you normally work. Pick out a fixed object with light, middle and dark tones (such as marine growth, a sunken vessel or geological formation) and make twelve exposures, as indicated

in the table below. Then, surface, reload your camera with another roll of Tri-X, submerge and expose the second roll in the same manner. Make certain you use the identical subject and maintain the same conditions when exposing both rolls of film.

While this test is designed primarily for $2\frac{1}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{4}$ cameras, it can be easily adapted to 35mm cameras by making ten blank exposures at the middle of a 20 exposure roll, rather than two as



" . . . the mid-section of the anatomy should be encompassed with only the lead substance considered to minimize buoyance of exposure garment and accessory equipment . . . " Illustrated by D. Terrell.

with 120 roll film. (Note exposures No. 6 and No. 7 in the table).

In processing the film, unwind the first roll and place the ends together. Even in total darkness, it is a simple matter to cut the film in half with a pair of scissors at the loop, which contains nothing but the blank exposures.

The first part of the roll is then processed $7\frac{1}{2}$ minutes in FR X-500 developer at 70 degrees (diluted 1:10), and the second portion 10 minutes. This procedure is then repeated with the second roll, the first part of which is developed for $12\frac{1}{2}$ minutes, and the latter portion 15 minutes. For tank development, it is recommended that you agitate for 5 seconds every 30 seconds. Once you have established a pattern for agitation, it is necessary to maintain that pattern consistently.

After the processing is completed, make contact prints of each negative, marking them as to the exposure and developing time. Then, place all of the prints together and examine the results obtained by the various exposures and developing times. By process of elimination you will find the ideal exposure-development combination which will give the best quality black-and-white print for the particular depth of the locale in which you are currently working.

Whenever you start diving at new depths or in different areas, test your black-and-white film in this manner before doing any extensive work. You will find it not only saves time and film, but will also provide you with "normal" negatives of consistent quality that will assure good pictures.

PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING EXPOSURE-DEVELOPMENT RELATIONSHIP

- 1st exposure—Normal. Determined by meter reading. (Example: f.11)
- 2nd exposure—Add one stop over normal exposure. (Example: f.11 to f.8)
- 3rd exposure—Add two stops over normal exposure. (Example: f.11 to f.5.6)
- 4th exposure—Reduce one stop from normal exposure. (Example: f.11 to f.16)
- 5th exposure—Reduce two stops from normal exposure. (Example: f.11 to f.22)
- 6th and 7th exposures—Cover lens and expose film.
- 8th through 12th exposure—Repeat as from exposure No. 1 through No. 5. (Editor's note: Skin divers seeking answers to photographic problems are invited to address their inquiries to Mr. Brooks, in care of "Skin Diver" Magazine. While it is not possible to reply to each letter individually, he will answer your questions in future columns on underwater photography.)

PERILS OF A SHELL HUNT

Today was my day off, and like most other days in the South Pacific, the sun was shining and the water in the lagoon was crystal clear—a perfect day for a shell hunt. The island I live and work on is one of many that form the atoll; the thundering ocean on one side and the lazy, quiet lagoon on the other. A shallow coral reef links most of the islands together and this “horseshoe” of islands forms the atoll. I spent most of the morning trying to find someone who shared my interest in a shell hunt. Finally Tony, a co-worker and friend of mine, decided he too needed some shells to send home, so we each gathered our equipment and started for the reef. I had taken with me a small laundry bag loaded with iron, flippers, mask, and snorkel, and a pair of tennis shoes for wading the mile long reef to the next island. The reef itself was some 200 yards wide sloping gradually down from the ocean toward the lagoon. The tidal water on the reef varies from about 1 to 6 feet depending on the time of year.

Shells were getting harder to find all the time, and since the next island was not inhabited, we would have better luck there. Usually shell hunters would walk up the reef for a mile or so and swim back in the lagoon looking for shells along the bottom in about 20 to 50 feet of water. Inner tubes were often taken along to carry things in and also for safety reasons. However, this time I planned to search the water off the other island and later walk back over the reef. We had a fairly easy time walking to the other island, the tide was out and the water was only about a foot deep. Upon arriving at the island, I noticed Tony hadn't brought any diving equipment with him. He told me that he was merely going to walk around the shore line and see what he could find. I didn't think too much of it, but quite often helmet shells, killer clams, and leopard shells would wash ashore. Usually I don't do much swimming alone; however, since I wasn't going too far off shore, my search could be directed near and around some of the large coral heads

in the area, which sometimes rise from as much as 60 feet to within inches of the surface. The water was cool and refreshing after the long walk.

It is surprising how close to shore some of the large fish will come. After only a few strokes I saw barracuda, parrot fish, schools of mullet, and many small and colorful varieties that never cease to amaze me with their shapes and brilliance. Quite often I have seen barracuda upward of 30 pounds, but somehow they never seem as curious or aggressive as their counterparts in Florida or the Gulf waters. The sharks on the ocean side and the deeper parts of the lagoon are “quite” curious and aggressive. I remember once while swimming off the deep end of the island with a friend, a large shark practically stalked us back to shore. He would circle quite energetically and occasionally chance a close pass at us, so we got the general hint and gave that end of the island up—but fast!

After an hour or so of sightseeing, I decided to get to work filling my sack with some of the small killer clams embedded in the coral. This is quite a job without a lung. Although the dives

By GEORGE W. BAILEY

aren't deep, great care must be taken in prying the shell loose from its coral bed without breaking it.

Helmet shells and large killer clams are usually found on the sandy bottom in the open. Helmet shells when cleaned make beautiful TV or bedroom lamps. The shells in the bag were becoming quite heavy so I decided to call it a day and head for shore.

Tony had filled his bag with mostly small shells which are priceless to fish bowl owners and for making ash trays. I cleaned most of my shells to lighten the load and made preparations for the long walk back. The water had risen on the reef and the tide was coming in fast. The current was very strong which

made the footing more difficult. After a couple of hundred yards the load we were carrying began to have its toll. Tony, being shorter and lighter than I, was having a tough time and was beginning to fall behind in the race against the tide, so I offered to carry his bag.

The water was about waist deep by now and really moving. We would take about two steps forward and be shoved three to the side. On the ocean side of the reef the water wasn't as deep as the lagoon side, but this meant walking almost directly into the current with little or no headway. I remembered almost bringing the inner tube with us, but hadn't. We could have simply loaded the shells in and let the tide sweep us down the reef and into the lagoon, pulling the tube into shore from there.

Just off the end of the island is a channel which is deeper than the rest of the reef and the current is particularly strong there at times. I had the two bags with the gear and shells so I half swam, half walked the channel till I made the shore. Tony had not reached the channel. I started for the beach, aching to sit down on dry land again.

Then I heard Tony call for help. I thought he was kidding at first until I saw him go under and come up with a pretty frightened look on his face. I dropped the bags and went after him; he was caught in the current and was being swept out into the lagoon fast. By the time I caught up with him he had been under several times and had cut his legs on the sharp coral.

Tony couldn't swim! I had never thought to ask him . . .

I tried my best to swim around the end of the island and out of the current but I was too tired and the current too strong. It was the best I could do to keep us afloat. We drifted by several large coral heads but couldn't reach any of them—not both of us anyway. It is a terrible thing to hold someone's life in the balance of your hands but for one horrible moment the thought of leaving him entered my mind.

The current was getting weaker as we got further from shore, so I decided to try to get Tony to float with me and rest for a few minutes. His legs were giving him trouble from the cuts and I couldn't help but wonder about the blood and if any sharks were around. After a few minutes I spotted a coral head about 30 yards away and this time we made it. It sure felt good standing there. After resting a bit, we made the rest of the distance to shore with little trouble.

All in all, I'd say we had a pretty good time, but I can't quite get Tony to agree . . .

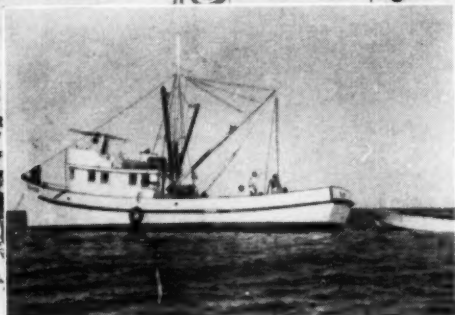
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MEXICO
THE GULF OF CALIFORNIA



Ten days of adventure...

By CHUCK BLAKESLEE

IN March 1958 the shrimp boat, PANCHIN, with its crew and a cargo of skin divers departed from Guaymas Harbor on an extended exploratory skin diving tour of the Gulf of California. This group was able to dive in the waters of many off-shore islands and isolated coves and inlets that have never been dived in before. There were a few experiences that increased the pulse a bit, in fact when I think about some of them, quite a bit!

The crew and divers were varied but harmonious and there was nothing lacking to provide a real comradeship among all. The eighteen man company consisted of:

Our organizer and host, Ernesto Zaragoza, businessman of Guaymas, an excellent skin diver who was later to show us great skill and accuracy with his Spanish compressed air gun; handsome Walter de Cima, a skin diver who is in charge of the shrimp fleet for the Pesca de Cima Co.; Oscar Ulloa, a giant of a man and a deep diver who proved to be very proficient at spearfishing; Jose Ortega, adventurer and photographer with enough equipment to outfit a U.D.T. team; Jose Amador, our able Captain who had been at sea most all his life and who was also a good diver and long distance swimmer;

German Vielledent Jr., first engineer, who was an excellent seaman and skin diver. German was one of the strongest men I've seen, proven by the many tasks he performed aboard the PANCHIN; Miguel Mokahe, second engineer, a rawboned boy with boundless energy, a fine sense of humor and a deep respect for the water (He couldn't swim!); Pablo Leon, our cook with a thousand and one mouth-watering recipes and the hardest working man aboard the PANCHIN; Jose Luis Olvera, seaman, whose dry wit kept the aggregation laughing happily around the Gulf; heavy good-natured Leopoldo Gutierrez, seaman, whose greatest joys were a heaping plate of food and skin diving; silent Ramon Soto, professional diver and able seaman, agile as a cat and could navigate the slippery decks to secure equipment when everyone else was holding on.

Luis Alejandro Zaragoza, Ernesto's young brother, a superb hand-line fisherman; Ricardo Vizcaino, young son of a Guaymas dentist, whose lust for fishing was second to none; humorist Bill Silzle, skin diver, excellent movie camera repairman and buyer for the E. A. Silzle Corp., producers of essential oils for confections, soft drinks, etc., of Anaheim, California; Blair Smith, top skin diver, farmer and pro heart player from Garden Grove, Calif.

(Continued on Next Page)





Oscar Ulloa and Ernesto Zaragoza prepare to hit the water at the Isle of Ildefonso. Water visibility around the island was always more than 100 feet, with a parade of marine specimens more complete than the best stocked aquarium.



Don Siverts, in his never-ending pursuit of the little fishes to film. His maneuvering and gyrations would baffle even the advanced contortionist.

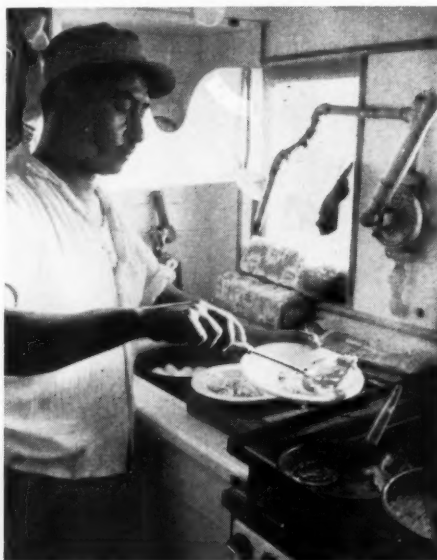


Leopoldo Guterrez shows the underwater cameraman a horned shark that had been competing for his lobster hole. The horned shark of the gulf, in all appearances, is exactly the same as seen along the Southern California coast.



This gulf grouper passed into fish heaven in a twinkling of an eye when hit with Blair Smith's Sampson gun and impact head. The grouper weighed 110 pounds and when filleted, baked and basted with butter and lime juice . . . Mmm-m-m good.

Pablo Leon, the busiest man aboard the Panchin, dishes up seconds for the hungry divers. Below, Walter de Cima, Ramon Soto, Ernesto Zaragoza (still in exposure suit) and Leopoldo Guterrez stop for a hasty noon meal, then back to the water for another 4 or 5 hours of diving.



Turtle and approach

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Turtle and shark fisherman off El Pulpito brings his heavy harpoon to bear in a silent, gliding approach on a basking turtle. Flour sack sail is usually reefed prior to the stalk.

CRUISE OF THE PANCHIN . . .

(Continued from Page 33)

Ken Kummerfeld, skin diver and engineer for the County of Los Angeles, who was always first in the water; Don Siverts, skin diver, artist, underwater photographer and probably the only man alive to come back from 10 days under tropic sun without a sun tan, as he spent every moment suit clad in the water grinding away with his Sampson movie camera and Rolleiflex; and the last, your old, tired co-publisher of "Skin Diver," Chuck Blakeslee.

The forethought of Ernesto Zaragoza left little to be desired in the way of food, sleeping accommodations, etc. Prior to the departure of the PANCHIN, the hold of the new 70 foot shrimp boat was filled with 10 tons of crushed ice followed by quarters of beef, pork and lamb, hams and bacon, chickens, crates of eggs, fresh Sonora oranges, melons, lettuce, tomatoes, squash, eggplant, potatoes, onions and cabbage, cans and cans of vegetables, mango, orange and tomato juice, sacks of beans, coffee and flour with bottles and bottles of excellent hot sauce. Then for parched mouths cases of assorted pop and beer. Most all of the food was consumed during the trip, along with a turtle taken by Blair Smith, a large deer killed by Jose Ortega and numerous filleted cabrilla, grouper and snapper plus the succulent langosta that abound in various parts of the Gulf.

On the rear deck of the PANCHIN were three outboards. These were for diving in the inshore areas and were lashed down while underway. By following the map, one may see the route taken by the PANCHIN from Guaymas

and return during ten days of superb diving.

The PANCHIN slipped from her berth in Guaymas Harbor at night and headed out of the harbor northwest some 117 miles to San Lorenzo Island, her first destination. As was previously planned she would travel by night, leaving a maximum time for diving during the daylight hours. A good number of the divers preferred to sleep topside in sleeping bags rather than in the bunks provided below. Little wonder, then, that the partisans should come back in such fabulous condition after sleeping under the stars, eating excellent food and utilizing the healthful ingredients of the sun and sea.

The following day-to-day notes were kept with the idea of writing a story of the trip, but I thought that they might

be of more interest to those of you who may travel in the Gulf, in their note form, arranged chronologically as the hours and days slipped into one another.

FIRST DAY OUT

Cruised through oily seas all night, past Tiburon, Esteban and Turner Island. Woke up to el sol burning a hole in the sky. Pablo Leon, the cook, gives the breakfast call. Everyone is up with a shot, then use the air-conditioned head (hanging over the side, which later proved to be quite an art in bounding topsy turvy seas). Breakfast of eggs rancheros, tortillas, jelly, lettuce and tomatoes, polished off with a cold cantaloupe.

8:30 a.m. San Lorenzo Island appears in the distance and there is great activity aboard with everyone preparing their underwater cameras, spears, the outboard motors for the boats, etc. The PANCHIN is a well equipped boat with radio, good galley, seven bunks (everything but a toilet!).

10:15 a.m. Arrived at boat passage, San Lorenzo Island. Ready to hit the water, guns and camera ready. Beautiful, clear sky, no clouds, blue water, looks clear from the surface. Everyone is at a fever pitch, anxious to get into the water.

5:45 p.m. A very good day, lots of lobster taken (Pinto and Pacific). Grouper weighing 80 lbs. each taken by Ken Kummerfeld and Bill Silzle. Swam within 50 ft. of sperm whale trying to get underwater pictures. Water visibility poor. Maybe tomorrow the water will be clear enough for good underwater photographs! Everyone is beginning to get that outdoor look, turning a nice shade of pink and brown.

Supper of chicken, beans, lettuce, to-

(Continued on Next Page)

The detachable head used for turtle spearing is most interesting and can be described thus: The harpooner drives the tip tawn on the tough back of the sleeping turtle, the small rigid barb penetrates only a short way under the shell, being stopped by a series of leather washers; in this way the turtle isn't injured and can be kept alive for a week or more.



CRUISE OF THE PANCHIN

(Continued from Page 35)

matoes, fresh tortillas served to us in great heaping mounds. After supper everyone retires to the large after-deck of the shrimp boat for a bull session and soon a game of hearts is going while up in the cabin someone has broken out the dominos, the national game of Mexico.

SECOND DAY OUT

Still anchored at San Lorenzo Island. Awake at 6 a.m. to the bang, bang, bang, rattle, rattle of Cook Pablo in his little cubicle. What's that? Whales!! A blow breaks just 25 feet off the bow. She's a big one, the spray from her blow drifts back over the boat. Few clouds, slight wind, rather cool. We are quite alone here. Haven't seen any other boats. The island is uninhabited and very rugged with no growth except for a few small saguaro cactus.

8:30 a.m. Breakfast of lobster omelet with chili and a couple helpings of delicious frijoles. Off to take underwater pictures.

8:45 a.m. Dived some at Lorenzo Island for fish. Many large grouper. About midday we moved the PANCHIN around the large island of San Lorenzo and up to a chain of other small islands to Salsipuedes, at the tip of San Lorenzo. Took several good underwater pictures of small fish and Ernesto with a 40 to 50 lb. grouper speared in a small inlet.

Bill Silzle, in exploring the island, had found an eagle's nest with a small eaglet. It was high on a pinnacle overlooking the bay. Several of us climbed up and took color and black and white photos of the little fella, all feet, wings and head. Parts of dried fish and bones were crested up around the nest. The mother swooped in and about very close, too close. Without our first aid kit to patch up the possible talon and beak lacerations, we hastily departed.

Large whales have been very close again. They make quite a metallic ringing sound as they suck in their large

volume of air before diving. For several hours Don Siverts and I pursued two of the whales as they forayed up and down the island coast. We would race ahead of the pair, cut our engine and drop into the water directly in their paths. With the water being cloudy we knew we must be close to get pictures. Whether they were aware of our presence or their keen perception warned them, we'll never know, for they always sounded and came up 30 to 40 yards away, never having come within camera range. Though we repeated the process several times we were never fortunate in getting pictures of these gigantic mammals.

Supper of steak, tomatoes, potatoes, and beans, polished off with cold canned peaches. Tomorrow we move to El Barrill below San Rafael to dive for pearls.

THIRD DAY OUT

6 a.m. Gales blew all night around the boat. Leopoldo Gutierrez talked in his sleep and kept some of the guys awake below in their bunks.

7:30 a.m. Breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon and beans, fresh mango juice and toast and of course, strong black coffee for those who can take it. We're nearing the Baja side now. We see beautiful inlets with vermillion hills fading off into eternity. There's little wind, in fact the sea is placid, the sun is scorching hot.

8:40 a.m. Arrived at San Francisquito Bay to dive for pearls. The bottom is a little over 100 feet. I have readied my Rollei to take down. My companion is Don Siverts. Bill Silzle and Blair Smith will be diving 100 yards away to try and locate the pearl beds. We're over the side and start down. We make the bottom in short order. We notice several Pacific Sheepshead swimming about and a few crabs but no shells. Don is grinding away with his Sampson,

(Continued on Page 48)



The huntsmen lower just-killed mule deer to water's edge, later to be taken to the Panchin by outboard. Pablo Leon, the cook, served venison roasts and steaks on the remainder of the cruise that converted all the beef eaters to a better way of life.



Left to right: Luis Olvera, German Vielledent, Luis Zaragoza and Ramon Soto view Jose Ortega's deer, killed on the gulf side of Baja California, Mexico.



Around the hatch cover Ken Kummerfeld, Blair Smith, Bill Silzle and Don Siverts bang away at one another in their regular (grudge) heart game held each night on the afterdeck of the Panchin.

BLACKFISH AGAIN EAST COAST CHAMPS



A pre-tournament discussion occupies the attention of Jack Keiser, Joe Thompson, Herb Rakebrand and, at right, Elman Myers and Charles Hull. Large trophy was presented by Underwater Sports, Inc. to the New York Blackfish.—Photos by Jim Jacobs.

The New York Blackfish won their fourth straight East Coast AAU spearfishing championship on July 27. Although the meet was held at Wicopeset Island, N.Y., it was conducted by the Connecticut Council of Diving Clubs. Wicopeset lies about two miles off Stonington Harbor, Conn., just off East Point of Fishers Island.

The Blackfish garnered 42 points to 40 for the second place Long Island Dolphins. Third place, with 30 points, went to the Newport, R. I., Underwater Sportsmen.

The Blackfish thus got a first leg on the three-year Underwater Sports, Inc., trophy for the winning team. The Fenjohn Trophy for the highest individual total poundage was won in a tie by Herb Rakebrand of the Long Island Dolphins and Don Titus of the Newport team. Each man had 10 pounds of fish. Rakebrand won the largest aggregate trophy singlehanded last year at Montauk Point.

Simpson of the Blackfish piled up half of his team's points with his seven pound striper, the largest fish in the

meet. To Simpson went the Connecticut Council trophy.

A tremendous bow must be made in the direction of Commander Hingston, executive officer of the Submarine Base at Groton, Conn., and his aide, Lt. St. Lawrence, who made available the YTB 548, to transport everyone concerned with the meet from New London to Wicopeset. The cooperation of the Navy with skin divers in this area has

The U. S. Divers Co. plaque for good sportsmanship went to Cliff Johnson of the Associated Skin Divers and John Bergen of the Underwater Sea Devils, both Hartford clubs. Neither man competed in the meet but both put in a tremendous day's work shuttling all the contestants and meet and team officials from the *Matunak* to Wicopeset Island and back in weather that kept most other small boatmen at home.

Fifteen teams were entered in the meet, but only eight weighed in fish. Behind the Blackfish, Dolphins and Newport, the finishers were the American Porpoises (N.Y.); the Naragansett Spearfishing Club (R.I.); the Worcester County Spearfishermen (Mass.); the Long Island Sea Horses and the Manhattan Skin Divers.

The Middle Atlantic Underwater Council entries, the Abington (Pa.) Submariners and the Maryland Waterbugs; the Connecticut Council entries, the New Haven Tritons and the Bridgeport CUDA's; and two of the Northeast Council's three entries, the Worcester Frogmen and the Massachusetts Sea Lions did not weigh in any fish.

The Atlantic Strippers took one fish but it was disqualified.

Although the weatherman promised a sunny afternoon as late as 8 A.M. on the 27th, he was wrong. Overhead the situation went from overcast and coolish to heavily overcast, cold, foggy and rainy as the day progressed.

The waters around Wicopeset did not produce a great many fish, but the visibility was as good as could be expected after a blustery week and on a comparatively rough day. As is so often the case in New England, if you arrange a meet, the fishes' alarm system goes off and they disappear.

By Paul D. Schmanska

been sensational and not the least of their gestures of good will was made on July 27.

The skipper of YTB 548 (the *Matunak*) was J. W. Montgomery, CBM. To him and his crew also go all our thanks for their Sunday afternoon duty. They had their troubles with one of the engines and the transmitter refused to work, but diligent effort got the diesel back in operation for the return trip to New London.



Resting, thinking and dressing by the divers on the fan tail of the YTB 548 on the way to Wicopeset Island.

NORTHEAST NOTES

By B. W. LUTHER, JR.

Northeast Council of Skin Diving Clubs,
P.O. Box 225, Fairhaven, Mass.

During the month of July all one had to do was to pick up the newspaper to see how busy divers from this region have been. The Fourth of July vacation week saw a lot of action within our sport. Between tournament spearfishing meets, drownings, vacation trips to the long sought diving areas, demonstrations, and skin diving, every reader can understand the busy season probably by comparison with his own schedule.

Nine clubs from the Northeast region competed in the Council sponsored East Coast A.A.U. Spearfishing Eliminations June 22nd. The day was ideal for the spearmen, being calm, sunny and warm. The area, Two Mile Ledge off Westport, Mass., was very abundant in Tautog. Each of the nine competing teams were equipped with a skiff and a tender, and diving was carried out off-shore. Over 227 pounds were taken in the contest. The largest Tautog speared was taken by the Worcester Frogmen weighing 11 pounds. The following is a run down on the clubs competing and their position.

1st: WORCESTER FROGMEN — George Johnson, Paul Joubert, Elmen Myers and Roger Plant.

2nd: WORCESTER COUNTY SPEARFISHERMEN — Ted Christenson, James Gilman, Dennis Kerr and Edward Logan.

3rd: MASS. SEA LIONS—Allan Herbert, Chet Hoynoski, William Miller and Bill Eilert from the Worcester Spearmen acting as a boat tender.

Other competing teams were: Fairhaven Whalers, South Shore Neptunes, Maine Marine Alpine Club, South Shore Sea Serpents, Bay State Aqua Club, and New Hampshire Sea Skates.

News from the Maine Marine Alpine Club indicates that their members are on the look-out for stomachs from unusual fish. They are working with Mr. Packard from the Portland Museum in this scientific venture. Each member is equipped with the proper packing material and chemicals for preserving the specimens.

The Annual International Whaling City Regatta was held July 4th in New Bedford water with scuba divers from the Fairhaven Whalers acting as safety



Contestants in the June 22 eliminations sponsored by the Northeast Council enjoyed a ride out to Two Mile Ledge for the contest. Dick Myers, Council President, at right.

men. During the last heat of the 225 class hydroplanes, world 225-cubic-inch class record holder Hank Vogel of Webster, New York spun out on the first turn and was struck by a fast moving hydroplane which hurdled the Vogel boat. Rescue divers from the Fairhaven Whalers removed the unconscious driver who was rushed to the hospital. Mr. Vogel is reported recovering satisfactorily from the mishap.

The Northeast Council is planning to hold a Council sponsored treasure hunt type meet September 14th at the Weiers Beach, Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire. Lake Winnepesaukee has been the location of the past annual treasure hunts held by the Council, and this year's meet seems to hold promise of being the best yet. Pleasant surroundings and clear water contribute to make this lake one of New England's favorite inland diving spots.

The Aquateer Diving Club held its Second Annual Graduation Dive in June. Twenty new scuba divers participated in the event after having been tutored by members from the Aquateers during the winter diving lessons held at the Williston Academy Pool. The classes are open to any potential skin divers who wish competent free instruction. The diving area on Lake Mattawa was marked with the Divers Flag, and officials of the club reported good response from the skippers in respecting the area.

On July 9th, while on vacation, James Cahill of Danvers and New England representative from the Fenjohn Co., Percy Kingsley of Oak Lawn, Rhode Island, and Brad Luther were diving

in and around Menemsha Harbor, Martha's Vineyard. We were informed by one of the local fishing draggers that they had fouled their net in an obstruction, possibly an airplane. Locating the obstruction was easy, and it was indeed an airplane. While checking the plane for identification marks, we were surprised to come across human bones in the cockpit. Further examination proved that this was one of the many missing aircraft which have disappeared in the area taking their pilots with them. Coast Guard and Naval authorities were notified who ordered salvage operations underway.

The Navy Salvage Tug YDT-4 from Newport Navy Base, Rhode Island, with the help of Navy divers, inspected the wreckage and brought to the surface the smashed and marine-growth-covered instrument panel, cockpit and wing section of the plane. The aircraft was identified as that of a World War II Gruman F6F "Hellcat" night fighter. The Navy would not disclose whether the plane crashed in Vineyard waters during WW II or at a more recent date.

The New Hampshire Sea Skates have been active for the past six weekends in fine, clear, cold waters at the Nubble, York Beach, Maine, one of the finest skin diving spots in New England, a well protected spit of land jutting into the ocean containing a variety of bottoms suitable for skin and scuba.

One thing noted was the scarcity of lobsters the past month. Among those diving from the club were Charles Bowman, Jack Whelan, Frank Openshaw, Bill Lind, and Joan Paris.

For future weekends the Sea Skates are planning several trips to the Isle of Shoals and one or two sunken ships.

Southern California . . .

DIVE SHOP CHATTER



By
Chuck
Fremdling

We have another new dive shop that has just recently opened up, Cal-Aquatics. It is located in the San Fernando Valley at 7417 Lankershim Blvd. in North Hollywood, Calif. Owners Phyllis and Herbert Hughes are both ardent divers themselves. They, too, feel the necessity to have another store in the Valley because of the rapid growth of this fascinating sport. Their store is very new and colorful and just loaded with skin diving "goodies." They just recently purchased a new compressor for your air needs and it's a big one, too. Congratulations to you both on



Chuck Fremdling

your first large class in scuba instructions. Please write or call them for those in that area wanting to join their classes.

All American Sporting Goods, 1025 Chapella St., in Santa Barbara, Calif., has a complete line of diving gear and complete sporting goods as well. It's one of the largest and newest stores in the Southern California area. They have everything. When in the Santa Barbara area, stop in and pick up a "Skin Diver" Magazine and say hello to Jim and Sam Campbell.

Divers' Den is another new dive shop in the Santa Barbara area. Its owners, Don Duckett and new associate, who I will announce later, wish to bid you welcome to their new store located at 725 Chapella St. Fully equipped with complete diving gear, they have air to meet your demands. For those of you who wish to participate in this sport, please drop in and ask about their classes for skin and scuba instruction.

Catalina Island has long been one of the finest diving areas in the world. Waters are always clear and with the fantastic beauty of the underwater world there gives every beginner a thrill he has never before encountered. Catalina has always been known for its glass bottom boat rides over the submarine gardens giving the people a

thrill in beauty. This interests the youngsters quickly. Now there are many diving schools to instruct the youngsters on safety and the use of the lung properly. Many instructors take their students to Catalina Island for their first ocean dive. Since diving is an all year sport here, I'll be telling you something about the dive shops there in my next column.

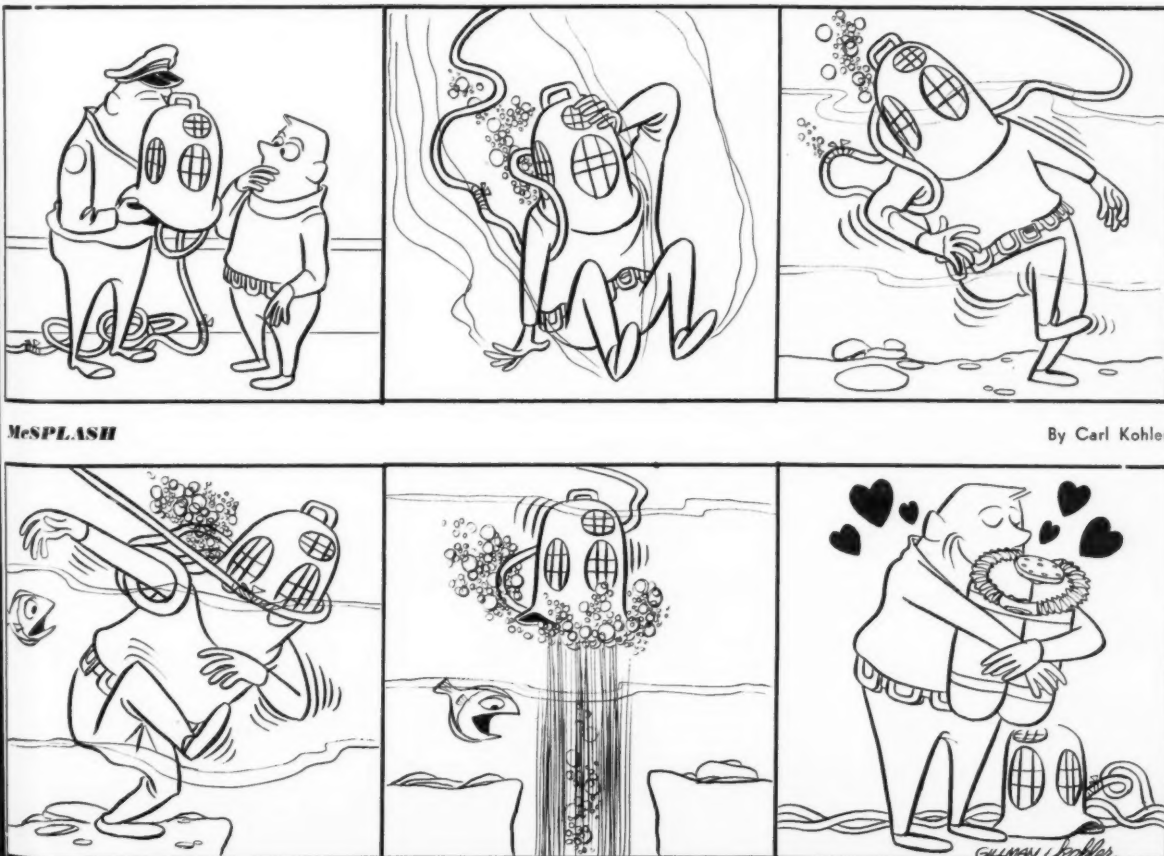
We will be looking for you at the Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona, California, held from Sept. 12 through Sept. 28. Drop in the Sports Plaza and let's get acquainted.

Check with Bob Retherford, president of the Council of Skin Divers, at Aquatic Center in Newport Beach for the forthcoming star fish mop in October. Write him or call. There will be many prizes. >

Fly Your

DIVERS FLAG

when you are in the water at all times. The FLAG is a symbol of your sport; your national emblem and your safety sign.



MeSPLASH

By Carl Kohler



Joe Bishop of the Miami Glug Glugs points to the location where they found this 700 pound English mortar cannon. Miami Herald photo by Steve Weaver.

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA COUNCIL OF SKIN DIVING CLUBS

by Bud Cox
P. O. Box 42543
Miami, Florida

Conch Key, Fla.—This little dot of land on the overseas highway is the base of operations for a number of native loot divers who swoop down from the north each weekend, search the reefs for ancient and modern wrecks and return to the mainland for another week in the box factory to finance their weekend forays.

During the 1958 Florida AAU spearfishing championships the Palm Beach Fin Divers discovered a mysterious 225 foot Cuban freighter which had gone down a couple months previous and the boys brought back some artifacts to prove their find. Several weeks later they were seen in an airplane over the area attempting to relocate the wreck and it is reported that they found it and dropped a marker, only to have the buoy break up when it hit the water. Another diver who has been on this wreck since the tournament states that there is nothing of value left, except the propellers and he plans to blast off the props on his next trip.

The mystery of this craft is that it

went down in calm weather, the crew came ashore in a rubber raft, they spoke no English and very soon the immigration agents arrived to whisk them off to Key West. One story that had been circulated is that the craft contained arms for Castro's forces and the crew decided to quit the revolution rather than run Batista's blockade. A few weeks after this vessel went down some salvors took both diesel engines out of her, but there was no mention of cargo. When the Palm Beach Fin Divers found her she was without cargo and the valuable navigational instruments were lying on the ocean floor. Why were these valuable and easily transported objects left in the wreck?

Miami Glug Glugs Bill Kelly, Bob Wright and Joe Bishop fish this area almost every weekend and they have spotted several wrecks, both ancient and modern, but they don't work them because there simply isn't a market for this material.

Their largest 'haul' is a 700 pound, 4½ foot English mortar cannon they brought up from 50 feet of water and towed ashore on two large black inner tubes. While they were towing this 200 year old cannon one mischievous bridge fisherman circulated the story that they had found two human bodies and were towing them ashore. When the Glug Glugs passed under the bridge it was lined with the entire population of Conch Key.

The latest Glug Glug discovery is a 200 year old anchor which is estimated

FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION OF SKIN DIVERS

It is with the greatest of pleasure that the Northeast Council of Skin Diving Clubs, Inc. announce their intentions of sponsoring the First National Convention of Skin Divers. The final plans were set into motion by Richard D. Myers, President, at their third quarterly meeting held at Worcester, Mass. July 20th, 1958.

Support from many agencies has already been received . . . the greatest display of diving equipment ever mustered under one roof has been made available . . . diving talent from all parts of the world will be on hand . . . tremendous scope has been placed on convention activities. Every club and individual will have an equal opportunity to take part in this tremendous program.

The Northeast Council has 26 member clubs totaling over 500 active members who have placed every means at their disposal to make this convention a success.

The Council deeply feels the need of a general meeting to discuss the many problems facing our ever growing sport. It also feels that only in unity of a common bond will the desirability of all be understood and protected. It is with this goal in mind that this great project will be fondly referred to in the future as skin divers alert.

Further information as to time, location, facilities, etc., will be forwarded shortly to all known clubs in the United States and Canada. The Council will be extremely grateful to any and all sources that feel they may, in part, be a service to this convention. Contact may be made to the following address: "Convention," c/o R. D. Myers, 275½ Lake Avenue, Worcester, Massachusetts.

to weigh 2500 pounds. This anchor measures ten feet across the flukes and the shank is over 14 feet long with a ring large enough for a man to swim through.

The Miami Makos are making a two day trip to this territory next weekend and they have put a lot of planning into this particular venture because they have high hopes of finding everything they are looking for . . . fish.

Last asked, over a he'd be middle denly o popped arms fra ing a friend ing, and eluding

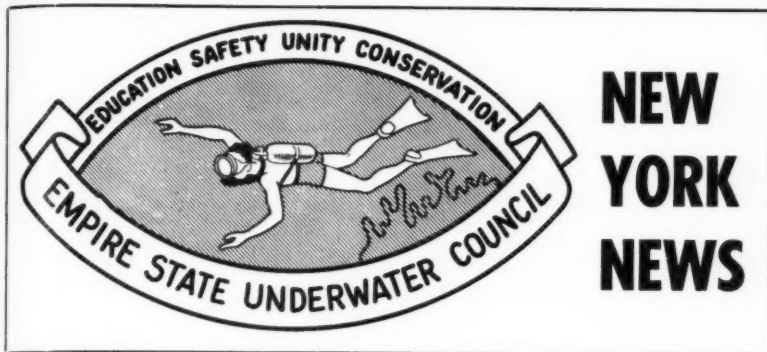
A law is liable however diver do lake, alo

The E DIVER every b rental pl erators a flag.

But, w divers th diving sa will be a have to and I kn pave the seriously

So we USE YOU Talking good way

HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR FISHING REEL
IN PE INS (TO AN



By GENE PARKER

Johnson Road, RD #4, Scotia, New York

Last week a boat operator friend asked, "Am I legally liable if I run over a skin diver?" He explained that he'd been running wide open up the middle of Sacandaga Reservoir. Suddenly one of those darn fool skin divers popped up in front of him waving his arms frantically. The diver was not using a float and DIVERS FLAG. My friend dumped the skier he was towing, and nearly dumped himself while eluding the diver.

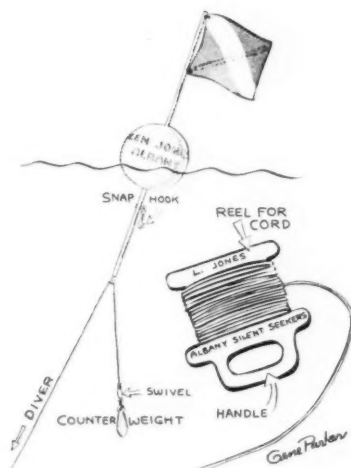
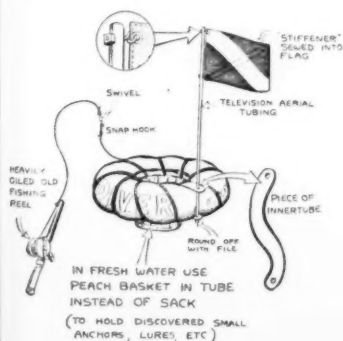
A lawyer might be able to say who is liable in this case. The real point, however, is: What in the world was a diver doing out in the middle of the lake, alone, and without a Divers Flag?

The Empire State Council has placed DIVER FLAG POSTERS in virtually every boatyard, salesroom, and boat rental place in the state. The boat operators are learning to recognize the flag.

But, what are we going to do about divers that won't do their part to make diving safe? This keeps up, and there will be a law that says all divers will have to use a flag all the time. You and I know that such a law could well pave the way for other laws that would seriously hamper our diving.

So we make this appeal. DIVERS, USE YOUR DIVERS FLAG.

Talking about flags, here's a couple good ways to fly a DIVERS FLAG.



As promised a couple of months ago, here's the list of clubs in the Empire State Council. This is up to date as of last May.

Albany Skin Divers
Albany, New York

American Porpoise Club
Brooklyn, New York

Aqua Aces
Middle Village, New York

Atlantic Stripers
Brooklyn, New York

Bronx Seaweeds S. C.
Bronx, New York

Dutchess Divers
Poughkeepsie, New York

Glub Club
New York, New York

Grumman Skin Divers Club
Bethpage, New York

Harlem Whales
New York, New York

Long Island Cudas
Long Island City, New York

Long Island Dolphins
Flushing, New York

Long Island Frogmen, The
Lindenhurst, New York

Long Island Sandfleas
Brooklyn, New York

Long Island Sea Horses, Inc.
Patchogue, New York

Long Island Skin Divers, Inc.
New Hyde Park, New York

Long Island Tide Riders
West Hempstead, New York

Long Island Underwater Explorers
Lindenhurst, New York

Manhattan Skin Divers Association
New York City, New York

New York Blackfish
N. Babylon, New York

Rochester Sport Divers
Rochester, New York

Schenectady "Y" Skin Diving Club
Schenectady, New York

Scuba Inc. Underwater Explorers
Bronx, New York

New York State Amateur Skin Divers Assoc.
Bronx, New York

The Sea Jesters
New York, New York

Sea Searchers
Long Beach, L.I., New York

Shellbank Skin Divers
Brooklyn, New York

Staten Island Skin Divers
Staten Island, New York

Suffolk Underwater Club
Huntington Station, New York

Syracuse Aqua Kings
Syracuse, New York

"Ten Fathom"
Westbury, New York

Trident Club of U.S. Merchant
Marine Academy
Kings Point, New York

Trigger Fish Skin and Scuba Diving Club
Rockaway, New York

Trojan Sea Horses
Troy, New York

Viking Underwater Club
Brooklyn, New York

Westchester Tritons
Larchmont, New York

West Side Squids
New York, New York

White Plains Skin Divers Club
N. White Plains, New York

SPECIAL NOTICE

Empire State Underwater Council announces:

TREASURE HUNT at SKANEATELES LAKE, BORODINO, NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 7 (Sunday after Labor Day)

Road markers will indicate the way to Lourdes Camp, where the meet is to be held. This treasure hunt is strictly for member clubs and their guests.

DRIFTWOOD



... I've got some hideous news for the gung-ho element among us. If I am not given plenty of photos in which the fair sex is winsomely displayed, then I'll be damned if I'm going to use up precious space upon snapshots of sturdy, underwater clowns in full diving garb. These ill-tidings are accompanied by the equally dismal fact that I am beginning to see eye to eye with those cogent critics who insist this page has become a Lonely Hearts haven... and a second rate one at that. Whatever else this ruptured moment in a lifetime of wet living was intended to accomplish, it was never designed to give romance a helping hand. Consequently, I'll not expose full addresses anymore. A goodly number of spritely souls are still sending color photos. We cannot print color photos. Got that? I've said it many times before. I'll shriek it once more. WE CANNOT PRINT COLOR PHOTOS. If you find this month's mail a dismaying proposition, remember: it was written by human beings. You go ahead and hurl yourself into the froth. I want to curl up and be alone with my lousy thoughts...

Please tell this Charlie-I-think-skin-diving-stinks-Dennis that I'll not only discuss Zen Buddhism with him, but that after a period of not more than seven minutes alone with him, I'll guarantee his donning a rig and going skin diving! So we divers are chronic deadheads, eh? I wonder how he'd look with no head at all.

RONNIE GANN, Instructor
Hartford School of Jiu-Jitsu

Talk, talk, talk... that's all I ever hear.

Personally, I think this Charlie Dennis character is just a guy who is afraid of the water and using his venomous accumulation of frustration upon us. If it makes him feel better, then I'm happy for him. Aren't you, Kohler?

BETTY HULL
Des Moines, Iowa

I'm happy for everybody.

On looking through some back issues of the *Skin Diver*, I came across the first *Driftwood* page. After comparing it with July's *Driftwood*, a little suspicion I've had lately came to light. Your insulting, chopping answers aren't as insulting or chopping any more. As a matter of fact, you've made some fairly decent replies, lately. The question is this: Are you starting to listen to some of those humor hating dissenters, who don't appreciate *Driftwood* for what it was, or are you just running out of material?

TONY CHRISTIANSON
Gardena, California

Get off my back, will you?

Another plea from a lone diver. I think I can call myself an experienced diver (5-years worth) but I am in need of a companion for Scuba diving.

TOMMY JOHNSON
Brooklyn 20, New York

So, join a club.

If those very beautiful, very special little dolls (who happen to be your nieces) like letters from teenage boys so much, how about asking one of them (namely Christi Scheffy) why she didn't answer my second letter in which I asked her for a photo of herself and she...

IAN PORTER
Auckland, New Zealand

People in Hell would like ice water, too.

Kohler, you sly dog, you found us out. Our motive in traveling "incog" was not what you probably think. We were president of the Tacoma Scubaneers just a few months back. This fact being fairly well known, locally, we felt that our sentiments on the subject of contests would be misconstrued by some citizens as being the attitude of the entire club... which is definitely not the case. Personally, we don't give a damn who knows that spearfishing contests are our idea of just about the worst thing happening to skin diving. Not only do the meets give added stimulus to the notion, held by most non-devotees, that divers are out to slaughter all the fish in the ocean, they also provide excellent opportunities for repeat performances of the recent Buddy Skewering incident in the Texas Gulf.

MIKE SORBER
Tacoma 99, Washington

If you say so.

So you want to be swooned-at for your one-ounce starfish! No further comment necessary on that. Your column is lousy. It reeks. I read every reeking, lousy word of it.

CHARLES HOGE
Ukiah, California

Don't blame me for your lousy taste in literature.

Your page is probably the dreariest thing to happen to the publishing business since pocketbook novels were invented. I have been reading your page for a long time now. I honestly cannot see the humor or the cleverness others seem to find in it. Frankly, I think you are a sick man, mentally.

HELEN WEBSTER
Eugene, Oregon

You trying to get my autograph or something?

There is little point in addressing this to *Driftwood*—though it concerns Auntie Kohler—since, in the first place it would never be printed in its entirety, if at all, and secondly, I couldn't bear the characteristic inanity with which it would be answered. It really amazes me that some of your readers still address serious correspondence to *Driftwood*, expecting a reasonable reply. When I bought my first *Skin Diver* in 1954, I was impressed. You lived up to your slogan "Devoted To The Underwater World." You still have a fine magazine with one major exception. Why not persuade Mrs. Kohler to re-title her two-page phantasmogoria. I suggest the call it "Cupid's Corny Corner" or, perhaps, "Granny Kohler's Society of Lonely Hearts." You want constructive criticism? Bend your ear, friend. Get rid of the undersized, out-of-focus, inferior subject matter snapshots of backyard bathing beauties. When I want cheesecake, there's ample on the market worth looking at. Also, the tenure of the letters, last month, was disgusting. It's not a humor column anymore, but a medium for overly-romantic juveniles to trade addresses. Have you noticed that every girl who sends in her name and vital statistics (Heavens! Let us not forget the vital statistics) plays herself up as a combination glamour queen and wifely companion? Just who are they trying to snow? This sort of thing has no place in your magazine, sir. Chuck it! Sister Relhok has an agile mind and a quick tongue. Persuade her to put it to better use. Then again, she's not indispensable. I suggest you innovate a questions and answers column similar to TRUE Magazine. In summary, I am not against women diving as long as they are not a drag, which they are more often than not. But this boy-meet-girl policy in *Driftwood* is juvenile and unnecessary. When a girl or guy has to resort to those methods, they're already scraping rock bottom. They have my sympathy, poor people, but not my support. This, sir, is not a voice crying out of the wilderness but rather a shout right outside your very door. In the vernacular, let's get with it!

FLYING OFFICER DOUGLAS HINTON
Royal Canadian Air Force
Zweibrücken, Germany

Into every life a little, shrill Hinton must fall. Here is your mordant letter in its entirety, Flying Officer Hinton. Why put the knock on American girls? Possibly it's not girls who interest you, Flying Officer Hinton? I love them all.

I do wish to say, at this time, that many people—really serious people—do not appreciate the half-baked, stupid material printed on the *Driftwood* page. I am buying the magazine despite the void presented by these pages. I'm a teacher and I feel *Driftwood* offers nothing constructive to the teenage divers who read it. It can only appeal to the leather-jacketed, motor-cycling types. I'm not a stuffed shirt by any means. I'm writing this because the column

lacks anything constructive for intelligent people of refinement.
FRANK D. GUYER
Olympia, Washington

Not a stuffed shirt, eh? Har de har har. Now anybody who wears a leather-jacket and ski-foots a bike is some kind of monster, eh? And to think those poor, innocent juvenile delinquents are put in the same room with you.

Kohler, I've just begun following the Driftwood page and, frankly, I'm at a loss as to what to think of it. Will I be asking for trouble if I suggest that you brief me regarding the purpose of the page. I imagine it creates quite a bit of dissention, from what I've read of it.

WANDA CAMBERING
Los Angeles, California

DRIFTWOOD was, originally, setup to give the readership a place in which to blow-off steam, pet theories and attack creeping pomposity. It still is set up for just that purpose. Anybody seeking scientific, constructive and sober-minded material has only to ignore DRIFTWOOD and read the rest of the magazine. However, we LIKE the stuffed shirts and they are always welcome to perform for us.

I'm new to the San Francisco area and I'd like to get in touch with a boy who could teach me skin diving as well as go on general dates with me. I'm not really beautiful, but I do have my good points. I'm enclosing my address and hope some handsome guy gets in touch with me immediately.

FAITH DUNELL
Berkeley, California

Like I said—join a club.

Your remarks, in the July issue, insisting that women "stay in the kitchen" caused a raised eyebrow at this address. Why, even wifey likes to get away from the kitchen to enjoy an outing, too. Don't begrudge it, boy. It happens.

VELMA YAROCK
Yonkers, New York

To those guys who wear rings in their noses, maybe.

I'd like to bring up a point. I'm a skin diver and I own a boat, so I cannot be accused of being actually anti-boating. However,

is there anybody who agrees with me that more rules or regulations are needed insofar as some of the Water Cowboys are concerned? I've been almost run-down several times by yayhoos in their boats—and I'm getting kind of hot about seeing some of these morons make the water a dangerous place to be on, in or under. Can't something be done?

HENRY ACKERLEY
San Diego, California

How do you feel about chess?

I have a very unique problem. I need help. I want help. I must have help. Unless you are possessed of a cold, infamously-indifferent heart, you will instantly solve my problem for me. And why do I bring it to you? Well, you don't charge \$25.00 an hour. The Problem is: How am I going to convince my darling little wife that every time I want to go diving I do not, necessarily, want the entire neighborhood along. She has this habit of inviting some of the neighbors whenever I plan a diving trip—and it's beginning to drive me nuts. Especially, because I just plain haven't got the guts to stand up and tell them No Dice. Is there anything I can do? If anybody will know, you will!

SAM THOMPSON
San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Easy. Borrow money from them for gas, beer and food. In no time at all, you'll be avoided like crazy.

I'm trying to organize a committee to lobby for government financial aid in setting up Federal Divers Headquarters in all major cities. The purpose would be a well equipped staff of fulltime, well trained (and paid) experts to be available 24-hours a day for various important diving assignments. I need all the signatures and backing I can get.

ELEANOR JACOBSON
Philadelphia, Penn.

Why don't you lie down until those head pains go away?

... And there you have it, such as it is for this month. All the teenagers, who scribbled dull little missives in pencil, now know this page is no longer a willing target for such absurdities. Everybody kindly think up constructive thoughts and send them in. Let's reform, shall we?

carl kohler, penitent



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NEW ZEALAND DIVING HOLIDAY

By MAARTEN H. SPIT

We arrived at our destination, Vaughn Harsant's farm at Ha-Hei, Mercury Bay, North Island, New Zealand, at 8 p.m. after a day's drive in my two cylinder pickup truck which was loaded to the hilt with diving and camping gear.

After surveying the area, its calm sea, the abundance and nearness of small islands and reefs and the obvious promise of fine weather, we pitched camp at what later proved to be an extremely strategic point directly behind the only two cabins on the beach and bedded down for the night. I say "strategic" as both owners of the cabins turned out to be owners of boats, outboards and . . . daughters.

I awoke the next morning to find missing the following items: Michael (my companion), his flippers, hand spear, mask, trunks and my snorkel. He soon appeared with two fish for breakfast. Over breakfast he told me he had

met one of the owners who said he would run us out in his dinghy anywhere and any time.

After breakfast Michael took me over to meet the man and his wife. He offered to take us out in the boat, so we gathered our equipment and were off. We drop anchor about a quarter mile offshore around the Eastern Point next to a small reef. We donned our lungs and dropped over the side to the bottom 50 feet down.

Michael, a marine biologist-to-be and collector of invertebrate specimens, examines a rock closely and motions for me to join him. He found several pieces of the red coral "Dead Man's Fingers." Gingerly Michael touches one. In a flash the delicate, finger-like protrusions retract, leaving a red, gnarled lump. Several specimens find their way into Michael's bag and we swim on.

Next I spot a hefty puffer fish hanging a few feet off the bottom and at-

tracting Michael's attention, I give him the "now watch this" sign and carefully approach the puffer. Some six feet away I halt and slowly extend my spear. My intention was to tickle him under the belly to cause him to blow himself up, but Mr. Puffer Fish wasn't in the mood to cooperate and swam away. We swam after him for awhile and a few minutes later became engrossed in watching a small red and white striped fish which seemed quite unafraid, only moving slightly when we touched it. Right then and there we resolved to get on with our plans to build an underwater trap to catch fish like this for a salt water aquarium.

I started looking around for crabs—the object of our dive—and spot a couple small ones and a colony of equally small ones. We leave them alone and decide this isn't the day for crayfish. We swim on and collect a few more specimens, a few sponges, a branch of fire coral, a few sea slugs and a huge hermit crab. About then we run out of air and start for the surface and the boat.

On the way back to shore we discuss the dive and make plans to go out to Pidgeon Island after lunch to see if we can find a ray.

After lunch and putting the specimens in formalin, we set out for Pidgeon Island. Arriving at the lee side,

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we decide that we'll enter the water at the western end and work our way to the eastern point. Our friend, the fella with the boat, follows us on the oars keeping about 50 yards behind.

The bottom is dull and desolate, dark, volcanic rock which is heavily overgrown with dark green kelp. The sun is hiding behind the precipitous coast and there is hardly a sign of fish life.

Michael is ahead and to the right when I see him tense, cock his spear and dive. Automatically I follow him and upon drawing near I see him chasing a burly sting ray which is butterflying out to sea. My experience with rays is that when they're in flight, they're not worth worrying about, but this one didn't seem to have read the book. After a second it paused and Michael glided up and released his spear. The ray, hit at the base of the body, darted off. The head pulled out of the spearshaft and Michael hangs on the heavy cord. The ray loops, rolls and spins and suddenly heads down and past me in a broadsweep. I take aim and hit him behind the eyes which starts another spasm of antics. Together we haul him to the surface. Once aboard we weigh him, 68 pounds.

Back at the beach, we tidy up camp. We had dinner that evening with our new found friends and then adjourn to our tent—we're tired, but had quite a day.

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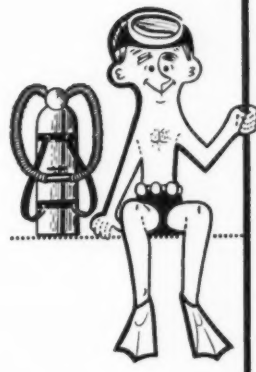
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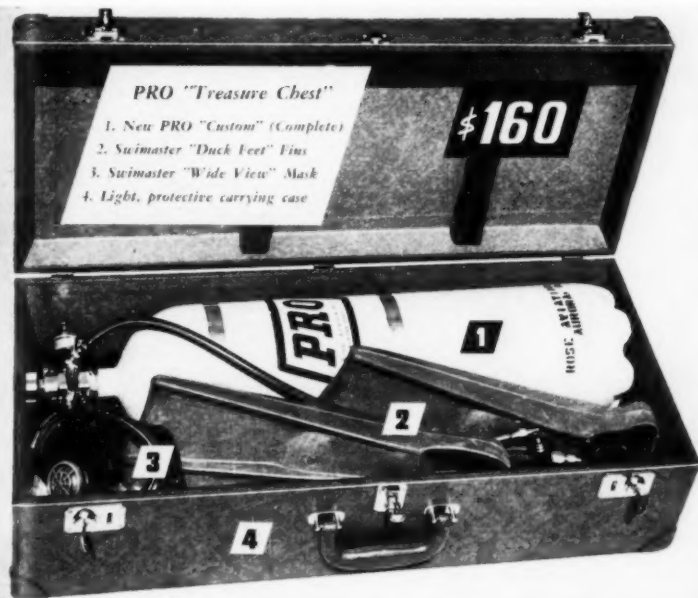
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RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL REPORTS

By **JOHN J. McANIFF**
184 Bellevue Ave.
Newport, R. I.

A crowd of about 300 witnessed the very successful R. I. Team Spearfishing Championships at Narragansett, R. I. on July 13th with a total of seven teams entered, representing the best spearfishermen in the state. Top team honors in the competition went to the Narragansett Spearfishermen, whose team captain, Charlie Hull, landed a 16½ lb. Striper just before the end of the meet to clinch this year's Championship. Ample contribution by the other two team members, Dick Bartley and Don Bibeau brought the point total to 106 points for the new '58 Champs.

Second place in the meet went to the Newport Underwater Sportsmen with Carl Lindh as Captain and Ed Bradbury and Don Titus as the team members. Both of these teams went to the East Coast Regional Spearfishing Championships at Wicopessett, N.Y., representing the State of Rhode Island.

At the most recent R. I. Council Meeting the base planning committee was named to organize a State wide pool of divers to be available for all emergencies. Delegates from each of the Council's member clubs will form this committee and prepare a workable organization in contact and cooperation with all the state and local agencies concerned with such matters. It is expected that the full plan will be in operation by mid-winter.

At this same meeting the chore of running the Rhode Island Individual Championships held at Sachuest Point, Newport, R. I. on August 17th, was assigned to the same three who had just completed the Team Championships, John McAniff, with Joe Mulholland and Bill Pickles as assistants. The Sachuest Point Area was made available through the U. S. Navy and is the exact same location at which the 1956 National Spearfishing Championships were held and since the Navy only grants permission for the use of this property for just such events, it was practically virgin territory.

The meet was open to all resident skin divers in the state of Rhode Island and to Naval Personnel based in this state as well as all members of R. I. Council Clubs. The entry fee was two dollars and there were awards for first, second and third place and a largest fish of the day award.

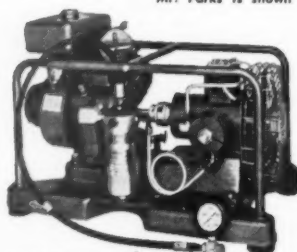
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thanks and that of the R. I. Council to all the fifty or so persons who graciously contributed their services as safety guards, boatmen, parking attendants etc. on July 13th at the R. I. Team Championships. Without the volunteer help of these folks no competition can be successful. A special thank you is in order to Joe Mulholland who as assistant director did virtually all the advance footwork along with Bill Pickles.

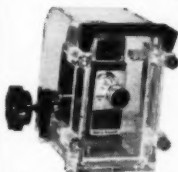
Volunteers were supplied for the meet through all the Council's member clubs. An interesting sidelight was the swamping of a rubber emergency raft halfway through the meet, dumping yours truly and Ed Lovett into a not too kind surf. Since no harm resulted we laughed it off and the meet went on, but I'm still a bit puzzled, after overhearing someone in the crowd refer to 'the Meet Director being "All Wet"!'.

To all skin divers in Rhode Island: the R. I. Council of Skin Diving Clubs was organized to serve your wishes for a fine sport in our state and stands ready to do this at all times. Contact the Council at any time either at 118 Sharon St., Cranston, R. I. or through the writer at 184 Bellevue Ave., Newport, R. I. The newly appointed A.A.U. Vice Chairman for Competitive Skin Diving for the State of Rhode Island may also be contacted through either of the above addresses.

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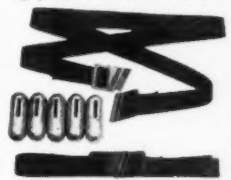
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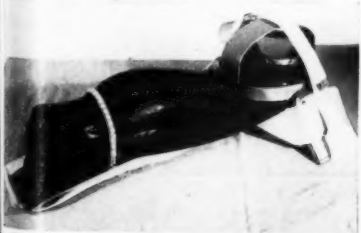


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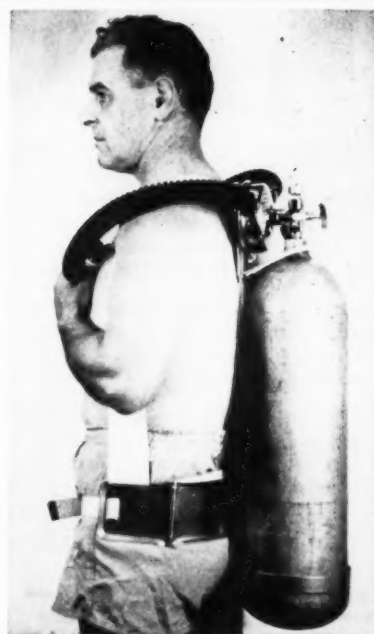
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CRUISE OF THE PANCHIN . . .

(Continued from Page 36)

shooting every little fish in sight. I notice a few shells attached to the bottom and pull them loose, later to learn that they weren't pearl shells at all. At this depth our tanks are soon out and we return.

After a rest and lunch of sandwiches, melons and oranges, several of us take small boats into San Francisco Bay. Here we find giant mounds of pearl shell in evidence of better days. Also we find a derelict boat on shore. Excellent anchorage.

4 p.m. Gone with Ernesto, Leopoldo and Oscar to pick up a few lobsters for supper. These fellows can sure find lobster. We soon had 25 or 30 (Note: both Pacific lobsters and Gulf lobster, pintos, were taken around San Lorenzo and here on the Baja side of San Francisco Bay).

8 p.m. Wind blowing like hell. 50 miles per hour. Everything lashed down. Boat rocking and rolling. We turn into bed.

FOURTH DAY OUT

10:30 a.m. Still windy. Last night was rough with very high winds. Go ashore with Don, Bill and Jose Ortega to hunt javilene on the beach. No luck. Go diving with Mexican crew for lobster. Good haul. We take pintos and two Pacific lobster. Our location is approximately 15-20 miles south of San Francisco Bay. Ken spears an 81 lb. grouper near where the PANCHIN is anchored.

4:30 p.m. Late lunch, spaghetti, pork roast, fresh tomatoes, potatoes, bread, and cookies. Siesta time.

8:00 p.m. Bull session on top deck. Someone produces a bottle of Bacardi and passes it around. Appetites whetted then late supper of fried chicken and lobster salad is cleaned up to the last morsel and the bean pot is scraped down to the enamel.

FIFTH DAY OUT

6:30 a.m. Just awake. Wind blew very strong from the west all night. The sun is just coming up. Blair Smith just tells me that the water looks very clear. We have been anchored approximately at Point Trinidad. We expect to hit the Virgin Capes this side of Santa Rosalia today, then to Santa Rosalia and on to Mulege and Bay of Concepcion. We move down the coast and dive for bugs, water very dirty. No underwater pictures today.

Didn't get to the Virgin Capes, strong winds. Have anchored between Point Trinidad and Santa Ana Bay for the night. Captain went to shore this afternoon and found a fisherman's hut about quarter mile up in an arroyo, palm thatched roof and ocotillo cactus

branch sides. Walter de Cima and I later visited the hut and on our return Walter nearly stepped on a rattlesnake lying in some succulent plants near shore. Lots of beautiful shells and bleached bones on the beach.

7:30 p.m. Back at the boat and everybody is starving. We are greeted with a very tasty supper of gorditas (small tortillas with meat, cheese, lettuce and tomatoes and chili sauce) and frijoles. Out on deck a little philosophizing takes place. We watch the sun dipping into the mountains in the west. The gentle warm breeze is blowing offshore and we all unanimously agree that man was meant to dive and fish, *not* work. Crew is at their domino game again while several of us practice the old proverb, "early to bed, early to rise."

SIXTH DAY OUT

Breakfast of pancakes and syrup. Spend most of the day resting up and patching equipment. Heavy seas are building up. A couple of the guys have gone ashore to explore. Don, Bill and Blair find a mountain of mica, geodes and numerous other minerals. We have now moved down and anchored at El Majon. Bill nearly stepped on a rattler, killed same.

Most excellent supper of fish patties, salad, French fried potatoes. Sang with my old buddy Leopoldo Gutierrez. Off to bed. Heavy seas, hard time getting

up the ladder. Will have to move on down the coast tomorrow.

SEVENTH DAY OUT

Spent a miserable night. Very heavy seas. Threw some of the crew out of their bunks. We slept topside and I believe the roll as the swell hit the boat to be at least 30 to 40 degrees. We are moving on down the coast. Pablo the cook is having a heck of a time keeping his pots on the stove. We're continuing to plow on down the coast through terrific seas nearing the Virgin Capes. The seas are so rough a small boat breaks loose several times and gear is sliding around the deck. Jose Ortega's Sampson case nearly went over the side. Blair Smith saved the day and grabbed it just in time. We have passed Santa Rosalia and have stopped at San Marcos Island where Kaiser operates gypsum mines. We procure some gasoline for the outboards here and several of us visit the town to find a church completely built of gypsum.

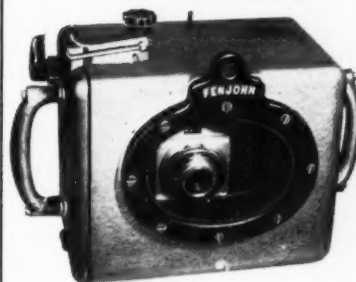
Left San Marcos Island for mainland heading for Mulege. Have anchored in a small inlet for the night. Had an excellent meal of steak, mashed potatoes, tomatoes and lettuce. Everyone is bushed, off to bed. Tomorrow we head into the Bay of Concepcion.

EIGHTH DAY OUT

Awoke at 6 a.m. Sun is coming up (Continued on Next Page)

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CRUISE OF THE PANCHIN . . .

like a ball of fire. Captain starts the engine. We are on our way to Bay of Concepcion. Another excellent breakfast is eaten as we pass Mulege. The water looks very dirty. Halfway down in the Bay the water is still very dirty. Two boats are dropped over the side so that divers can move into some of the inlets where clear water can be found. They soon report back that visibility is practically zero. We have now decided to go on to the island of Ildefonso off San Nicholas Bay to the southeast of Mulege.

Arrived at the island at 1:30 p.m. The water is very clear and calm. This is a beautiful spot. Ken is in the water first, naturally. No sooner in the water than he fires his gun. "Big fish!" he screams, and shortly loses it as his line is hung up. I am about to enter the water with lung and camera. I dive to retrieve his shaft and spot 6 or 8 large black sea bass about 200-300 lbs. Couldn't get close enough to shoot pictures. On a later dive I see Don Siverts and Blair Smith swimming among 10 to 12 foot manta rays. Don is grinding away with his camera as one comes within inches of him before it turns. Blair Smith returns to the boat with a 90 lb. turtle. Now our frantic little diver, Don, is going ape with so much marine life. It seems as if the fish are on a conveyor belt just passing in review. Bill and Don have shot several hundred foot rolls of the mantas.

7:00 p.m. A beautiful evening. Pablo is making tortillas. Winds have picked up. Captain has decided to move back into the mainland for a safer anchorage during the night.

NINTH DAY OUT

Windy most of the night. Clear skies this morning. We awake to a Mexican "ahoy." A Mexican turtle fisherman has just come along side in his sailing dugout. Crew of the PANCHIN ups anchor and heads for El Pulpito, another beautiful spot. There is a turtle camp on shore and several of us launch a small outboard and go over to visit. These fishermen sail up and down the Gulf in 12 to 18 foot dugouts no more than three feet wide, spearing and catching turtles and sharks, cleaning and salting the meat and after a week or more return to their village to sell their catch.

Noon time and we feast on turtle tacos. I glance around the boat and notice that Jose Ortega is gone and I am informed that he and several others had gone deer hunting. Only a short time later we all hear two shots in succession. High upon the hill we can see the hunters returning. A 190 lb. deer is brought aboard and the evening meal is

(Continued on Next Page)

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venison roast. Everyone is a little tired, having not slept very good because of the rough seas and we turn in early.

TENTH DAY OUT

A quick breakfast and the anchor is hoisted, the small boats are lashed down and we move out to the island of Ildefonso for our last dive before heading back to Guaymas. There are very heavy seas building up in the channel, but at the island it is placid on the lee side. Several of us are in the water before the PANCHIN has dropped anchor. The water is very clear and shortly our friendly squirrel Don Siverts makes a dive. Probably the longest I have seen anyone take. He is grinding away at a giant manta ray with his Sampson. The manta's spread is at least 12 feet. Several of us feeling kind of brave grab his tail and climb on his back for a little ride. As luck would have it our time is running out and must head back to Guaymas. Radio reports tell of high winds and rough seas. Everything is lashed down for the return trip.

The PANCHIN could probably take any seas with her full wash decks and high prow, but roll . . . one of the old salts nearly threw himself overboard on the return to Guaymas, not caring whether he lived or died, he was so mal de mer.

During the circuit of *mother nature's fish trap* the conclusion was agreed upon by all 18 men aboard the PANCHIN that there must be more fish life per square mile in the 50 by 800 mile expanse than any place in the world. The nutritious waters of the Colorado pour down from the north end of the Gulf while the Pacific fertile tides sweep in from the south with fish and mammals that are introduced to a much easier life, never to leave, maybe by choice or are contained by the natural enclosure.

There are many variables in this narrow neck of water evidenced by THE CRUISE OF THE PANCHIN . . . currents setup by the tides can change visibility and water temperature in a very short time. The off-shore islands, and headlands are most apt to have the clearest water. Wind can churn up the bottom in the shallows but rarely the depths. A hydrographic chart is essential in finding deep water closest to the shore for proposed diving. The nearer the opening of the Pacific the better the visibility can be depended upon . . . although crystal clear waters can be found even in the northern end with a respectable distance from the mouth of the Colorado.

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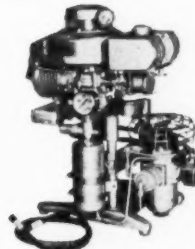
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NORTHWEST DEALERS

By DEL BAILEY

Del Bailey, a native of Washington and now residing in Costa Mesa, California, is well known among the divers in California. He is now calling on the marine and underwater trade shops. Previously he was a representative with a fabricating house.

Starting in this issue Del will author this column on dealers in Oregon, Washington and Northern California. Bailey has been associated in the past with commercial abalone diving and whale fishing and has been skin diving since the early days of WW II. He began his diving while in the Navy.

Eureka is fast becoming a diving center of its own. If you are ever passing through Eureka stop in and see Bayley Suit, 2408 Meadow Lane, in Eureka, California, and talk with Earl T. Rector. His custom suits are a deluxe Eureka and his stock is complete with diving gear of all popular brand names. Air compressor for your air needs is available, too. Rentals and regulator repair work are their specialty. These people were well represented at the last Humboldt County Fair held August 7. Demonstrations are another of their specialties which helps promote water safety and properly leads the young interested person to take the complete diving course.

Ken's Sports Center, 225 N. Irwin, Hanford, Calif., has a beautiful store dealing in all sports including underwater, marine supplies, boats, motors, water skis, etc. Hanford is just a few miles off Highway 99, so if you have a few minutes drop by and have a chat with its owner, Ken Hansen.

Sportsman, 126 N. Main St., Porterville, Calif., is a moderately equipped store in the area. Its owner, Rocky Childers, welcomes you any time you are visiting the area. Plenty of diving and water skiing in the back lakes. If you need any diving gear or water skis, Rocky will certainly be glad to accommodate you.

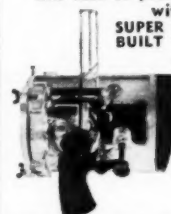
Allen & McPherson, 451 Pier Ave., Oceano, Calif., is in a secluded resort area. Any time you are thinking about a vacation drop them a line and ask about their reservations for the fine motel rooms situated right on the waterways. For your pleasure they have kayaks and paddle boards to rent and there is plenty of good diving here, too.

Don't forget to drop in and get acquainted with Mr. Fremdling and myself at the Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona, Calif., September 12 through September 28. It's going to be a good one.

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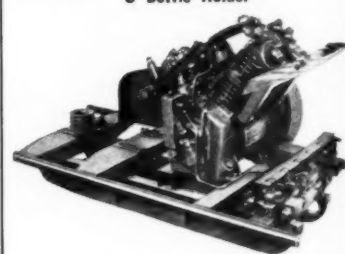
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BY CHUCK FREMDLING

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Nowhere in the world is there such a lavish, beautiful, thrilling, and jam-packed county fair as this one, displaying over \$25,000,000 in exhibits over 450 acres with its beauteous exposition buildings. Over 200 permanent buildings including hobby show buildings, Mexican village, outdoor and indoor living, new building products, glorious floral exhibit and, of course, sports and recreation.

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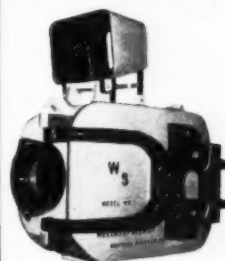
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Salt Lake City, Utah . . .

SALT LAKE SKIN DIVING CLUB

By Ron Thoms

Six members of the club made a trip to Punta Banda, Mexico over the fourth of July. The diving was excellent. One of the most interesting points of the trip was when Gordon Hansen speared a 100 pound Sting Ray. All divers returned from the trip with a fine catch and anxious to return for more of that fabulous ocean diving.

Upon returning to Salt Lake City, we found that a skin diver from the near by town of Ogden, Utah had drowned in the waters of Bear Lake. Divers Fred Digard and Gordon Hansen searched the cliff where the diver was lost but failed to find the body. Six members of the club Rescue Team: Gus Bueter, George Hansen, Les Brienmar, Dave Winburn, Fred Digard, and Gordon Hansen returned to the lake and searched for several hours but failed to locate the body. This accident brought to mind again the urgent need for the proper training of all divers. Our club has a strict safety training program which all members must complete.

Any divers in the Salt Lake City area interested in joining our skin diving club may contact the following: Gus Bueter, 140 North 2nd West, EM 5-6416 or Fred Digard, 2251 East Vimont Ave., HU 4-9990.

New Orleans, Louisiana . . .

BAJAOS SKIN DIVERS

By Burnie Dodge

Our activities this past month have been centered around the Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo at Grand Isle, Louisiana. Fifteen of our members took an active part in the Rodeo which was held July 17, 18 and 19. Of the six trophies awarded in the skin diving division, we won the Sheepshead Trophy with a 5 lb. 2 oz. fish speared by Dan Nelson. Our dynamic competitors, the Dixie Divers, took the Barracuda, Cobia, Red Snapper and Jack Fish Trophies. The remaining Jew Fish Trophy was taken by a team of independent divers with a 495 pound monster. Jimmy Arnoult of our club was on this team. We wish to serve notice that next year the Bajaos are gunning for every trophy.

The water in the Gulf has been clear with visibility from 25 to 100 ft., temperature around 65°. Largest fish caught recently were a 21 lb. Barracuda by Jay Albanese, a 16 lb. Red Snapper by Otis Gilmore, and the 5 lb. 2 oz. Sheepshead by Dan Nelson.

Anyone interested in diving with us, contact me at 740 E. Wm. David Blvd., Metairie, Louisiana.

Newport Beach, California . . .

NEWPORT HARBOR SUB-MARINERS

By John W. Miller

Catalina Island has been seeing quite a bit of our club members recently. Several of our divers have speared good sized Yellowtail and White Sea Bass; Ron Merker has taken four Whites, the largest weighing 44½ lbs.

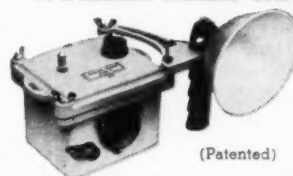
This just seems to be the right year to spear big fish for Blair Smith. His largest to date is a 343 lb. Black Sea Bass speared while snorkel diving on a club trip to Catalina.

We are certainly proud of our women's team for placing 2nd in the S.P.A.A.U. meet at Laguna Beach.

The Enchanted Islands, as seen in the March 1958 "Skin Diver" was the 4th of July weekend goal for Carl Nelson, my wife and myself. We found it to be everything that Ken Kummerfeld and Chuck Wilt promised, with the exception of the large curious? sharks.

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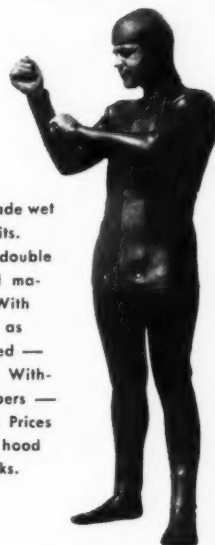
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Los Angeles, Calif. . . . FATHOMIERS

By Al Schuck

In regards to the 1958 Star Fish Derby, we wish to thank all the divers who were there; every one did a real swell job, which goes to show you that this sport has real team work. This is why some day skin diving will be one of the largest sports in the world. We had our yearly banquet for 1958, and presented the new officers to the club. Howard Conrad is the new President, and he has already shown us that he can handle the job. Al Schuck, Sect.; Pete Sabrah, Treas. and Bob McCarthy as Recorder. Good luck to the new officers. We also gave out trophies for the outstanding events of the past year, then finished off with a fine dinner. We are hoping that 1958 will be a bigger and better year for us. For information regarding membership into the club, call NO. 3-5247 and ask for Al.

Los Angeles, Calif. . . . UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHERS SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

By Zale Parry

Congratulations to the lucky winners of the Underwater Photographers Society's recent raffle with much thanks to the underwater equipment manufacturers who donated the excellent prizes.

1st Prize—by U. S. DIVERS CO., DW Mistral Regulator and Tank. Winner: Joanne Metcalf.

2nd Prize—by EARL SHUGARMAN, Underwater Camera Case. Winner: Gary Means.

3rd Prize—by PENGUIN SUITS, Rubber Suit Kit (Wet). Winner: Bart Reagan.

4th Prize—by HEALTHWAYS, Healthways 100 Fathom Watch. Winner: Jean Hunley.

5th Prize—by TEX'S SPORTING GOODS, Rondine Fins. Winner: Zale Parry.

6th Prize—by HOLLYWOOD SPORTING GOODS, Rondine Fins. Winner: Anthony Sotelo.

7th Prize—by SWIMASTER, Scuba Diver Delux Face Mask. Winner: Barbara Kupbeck.

8th Prize—by SKI N' DIVE, Champion Face Mask. Winner: Paul McComack.

9th Prize—by SKI N' DIVE, Squala Face Mask. Winner: Frank Sullivan.

Los Angeles, California . . . MARINE AQUARIUM SOCIETY

By Jerry Fawcett

The first meeting of the Marine Aquarium Society of Southern California (final name to be decided later) was held in Los Angeles on July 17th. Officers and directors were selected as follows: Jerry Fawcett, President; Ron Wiggins, Vice President; Ed White, Secretary-Treasurer; Directors: Ken S. Norris, Dr. J. Walter Wilson, Dr. Howard Hill, Jack Bitterly, Mike Lane and Dick Haas.

The purpose of the group is to make the small salt water aquarium easier to manage, therefore more popular as a hobby.

Anyone interested is invited to call either this magazine, NEvada 60581, or Jerry Fawcett at WEBster 4-2734, for time and date of the next meeting.

Boise, Idaho . . .

HELLDIVERS II

By John Arrington

During the first two months of this summer season, the members of the Helldivers have logged approximately fifty individual dives. We have been called to aid in the search for the victims of four different drownings and have had four club sponsored outings.

Members have found that the best diving in this area is in Payette Lakes and have been spending their underwater time between 40-130 feet. The visibility ranges from 20 to 40 feet and the water temperature below 30 feet is 39 degrees.

The Helldivers are no longer the only diving club in Idaho. A group of enthusiasts from Caldwell have organized a club, the Neptunes, and already there has been one inter-club dive. More of this type of outings are being planned. A local sporting goods store and its employees have asked the Helldivers to give them some type of course that will give them a basic knowledge of skin and scuba diving.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada . . .

HALIFAX FREE-DIVERS CLUB

By Don Chiasson

The diving season around Halifax has reached its peak. The water is, for this area anyway, quite warm and spearfishing is good. Trips to favorite diving spots are being made every weekend and quite often on week nights.

In the near future we are going after live fish for the salt water tank at the Museum of Science. The museum supplies nets and transportation and the club supplies divers. On a previous try, conditions were bad, but this time our luck should be better.

We have decided to hold regular meetings at the Museum of Science, Spring Garden Road on the third Wednesday of every month at 8:00 p.m. Our last meeting was one of the most interesting to date. The Driftwood Trophy, for largest fish speared was officially presented to Ken Hughes for a 35 lb. sea wolf.

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Full-dress six-gun salute is an honored tradition in the Danish club for weddings.

Charlottenlund, Denmark . . . SKOVSHOVED UNDERSØISKE GRUPPE By Orla Jacobsen

Here in Denmark we have four groups of amateur divers, those diving for sport, in the police and fire departments, two salvage corps, and the marines.

Our group, the largest of the four, hunt, take pictures and search for ship wrecks. We have found a few wrecks, but there was nothing in them for us. There is an old wreck lying in the sand in 30 feet of water near Elsinor. We recovered some nails, iron parts, timber, etc. from this wreck. We have heard that this is the wreck of the "Bredede" but are not sure.

The picture of my wedding day shows how we salute our members in the group. Here in Denmark we salute the splendid idea of the Divers Flag and we are using it and will do everything possible to publicize the flag in all of the Scandinavian countries.

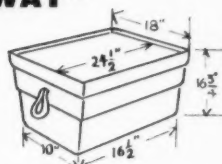
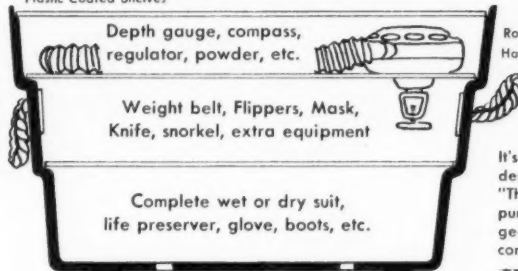
Waterbury, Connecticut . . . WATERBURY SCUBA DIVERS

By Niel J. Bulger
At the last meeting of the Waterbury Scuba Divers it was decided to purchase three new lungs. The club voted to accept the Divers Flag and spread the word to local boatmen. Members contacted the editor of the Waterbury daily paper and discussed the possibilities of an article about skin diving in the Sunday paper.

New officers were elected; they are the following: William St. John, James P. Melia, Thomas F. Melia and N. J. Bulger. The club secretary may be contacted at 39 Revere Street, Waterbury 8, Connecticut, phone Plaza 3-8719.

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Fick, Malmquist and Mayer of the winning Hi-Lo club.

Westminster, Colo. . . .

HI-LO DIVING CLUB

By Kenny Fick

The regional runoff held at Grand Lake, Colo., was won by the Hi-Lo team. The regional champion team members are Cliff Malmquist, Wally Mayer and Ken Fick. The team took 147 pounds of fish in the two hour contest (92 fish).

Three trophies were presented to the winning team. Since the Hi-Lo team will be unable to attend the nationals, the Aqua-Bat team of the Ardmore Air Force Base, Okla., will represent our region.

Lexington, Kentucky . . .

"MERMEN OF KENTUCKY"

By Estill Lyons

Our Lakes are now clear and warm. Spearfishing for "rough fish" is in full swing. However, diving below 40 feet one encounters extremely cold water; therefore, bring your suit if you plan deep diving. The "rough fish" are in the upper 20 feet depth, and no suit is necessary.

We were EMPLOYED by the police department, to search for a man, who was supposed to have been murdered and thrown in the Kentucky river. The victim turned up alive, but another person is now missing. If he is not located in two weeks, we start searching again; in Kentucky River, which is chocolate colored and a current is running.

We have been able to help a lot of visiting divers by telling them where to dive, and by supplying them with air. Mr. Al Trager, from Atlanta, Georgia, and guest Mr. Charles Bohmer, of Lexington, visiting divers, are the latest so helped. Visiting divers are welcome to contact me for any information needed.

San Antonio, Texas . . .

SAN ANTONIO UNDERWATER CLUB

By Peggy Marie Walker

Club members are still hearing reports of the splendid time five of its members had recently in the depths of the warm Pacific off the coast of Manzanillo, Mexico. Divers making this expedition included Maynard Braden, Kennard Judkins, Bob Nye, Curtis Walker and Bob Jackson. The men report accommodations good and the site wonderfully unspoiled by a horde of tourists.

For the summer months we are holding only one meeting each month, and will try to plan at least one club excursion. So far coastal waters have been unfavorable, and trips planned to this area have had to be cancelled.

For the interest of divers visiting this area, we would like to let you know SAUC has an air station, which will be happy to give prompt service to divers. Those interested may call Jack Orms at Walnut 2-5416.

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Willows, California . . .

FEATHER RIVER SKIN DIVERS

By Pat Begren

Two members of the club, Mrs. Pat Begren and Rex Burright, recently recovered a 1958 Plymouth that had rolled into Stony Gorge Lake, about 20 miles west of Willows. A crew from the Sheriff's office searched 6 hours, the divers found the car in 10 minutes.

On a club dive at Van Damm Park, Little River, a limit of abs and some fish were brought home. While diving, two of our members, Homer Dryer and Ernie Fuller, found an old anchor that had one side buried in the sand. They estimated the anchor was eight feet across.

Any persons sixteen and up are invited to join our club. We meet every second and fourth Tuesdays. Our secretary is Mrs. Homer Cryer, 15 Toledo St., Yuba City, Calif.

Pompton Lakes, N.J. . . .

POMPTON LAKES SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM

By Lynn Weckback

Our club was organized in April of this year and as of now we have a membership of twenty divers. Membership is still open with certain restrictions, applicant must be 16 yrs. with a senior life saving badge or 18 yrs. without. Applicants must also pass a rigid swimming and medical exam.

The club has been formed to serve this lakeland area whenever any type of underwater recovery is required by the police or fire departments. It is also a social club where planned trips are taken by the membership.

The officers of the club are Robert Seibeking, Adolph Woll, Lynn Weckback and Ken Hammer.

Club member Jack Mulqueen responded to a call recently in the recovery of a girl who drowned in a boat collision on Greenwood Lake.

New York City . . .

KNIGHTS OF THE NAUTILUS

By Gill Shubin

Eight boys of West Side YMCA organized a new skin diving club, called the "Knights of the Nautilus." Assisting with details were members of the parent club, the "West Side Squids, Inc."

We accept members, aged 15 to 20, only. All must be members of the West Side YMCA and be graduates of the "West Side YMCA Diving School." Two Knights represented us at the "1000 Islands Historical Underwater Dive," held at Alexandria Bay, New York and placed second, winning an "Aqua-safe life jacket" which had been donated by the U.S. Divers Co. Our boys also dived on the "Sir Robert Peel," a British ship sunk at Alexandria bay after the war of 1812. We witnessed the salvaging of the ship's anchor, flywheel and . . . Sir Robert Peel's personal chamber pot, a white porcelain job made in 1742 in China!

We all had to wear rubber suits as the water temperature only reached 50 degrees. Visibility was between 8 and 12 feet, and our limit of diving was sixty feet.



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Spokane, Washington . . .
THE SPOKANE SKIN DIVERS CLUB
By John Blake

Twelve club members coordinated with Civil Defense officials were on hand at the Diamond Cup Race at Lake Coeur d'Alene. We had been trained to rescue a driver out of the water while on a stretcher to prevent further injury, although our services were not called on as far as water rescue.

The next Sunday found us at Newman Lake at the limited hydroplane races. This time Dick Edwards and Dave Stroup brought up from 20 ft. a limited hydroplane named "Squirrel II." Another boat was partially sunk and we assisted in its rescue.

The Club's spearfishing meet was held at Morgan Park, Loon Lake on the 20th of July. First place went to Dale Pratt and John Blake with Dick Edwards and John Smith taking 2nd place. John Blake also took the largest fish trophy donated by Simchucks Sporting Goods.

As this is my last club report I would like to thank Dave Woodward, our A.A.U. spearfishing representative, and Clyde Combs of the American Red Cross. These two have been a great help to club officers in this past year.

Racine, Wisconsin . . .
BADGER AQUA-ADDICTS CLUB
By Jerry Dzindzeleta

The Badger Aqua-Addicts Club of Racine, Wisconsin is a skin and scuba diving club which was officially formed in May of this year. Our club is the direct result of a skin and scuba training course which was sponsored by the Racine Y.M.C.A.

The club has offered its services to civil organizations such as the police, fire, and sheriff's departments as well as the local Coast Guard station which has been the first of the group to call upon us. Our club salvaged a warning light, which was valued at twelve hundred dollars, for them, from twenty-four feet of water in Lake Michigan.

The Badger Aqua-Addicts decided to take part in the 4th of July celebration here in Racine by entering a float in the annual parade, and by setting up an information and display booth at Racine's lake front where a carnival and other entertainment was supplied for the public, and by giving a diving exhibition in Lake Michigan.

Some of the boaters navigated to within several feet of our Flag bearing floats. This incident stimulated the club into making posters explaining the Divers Flag and these posters have been distributed to boat and yacht clubs in Racine. Our club excursions thus far have been trips to inland lakes, a trip to a local quarry, and in the near future we are looking forward to an excursion on Lake Michigan.


Kansas City, Missouri . . .
KANSAS CITY FROGMAN CLUB
By June Poplar

"Frogmen train Sunday, search on Monday." Those were the July 1st headlines in a local newspaper. Sunday, June 29th ten members made the 40 mile swim from Leavenworth, Kansas down the Missouri River, landing near the Chouteau Bridge after ten hours and ten minutes.

Monday evening we were called back to the same spot to assist in recovering a car with the body of a fifteen-year old girl inside. The car had rolled backwards into 40 feet of water while launching a boat. Recovery was successful, and during that two day period we really had our share of newspaper, radio and TV publicity.

Police and Fire Department officials are finally beginning to call us in at first news of a disaster, now that they've learned our assistance is of value. Anyone wishing information about the club is welcome to attend our weekly meetings at the Downtown Y.M.C.A., Thursday, 7:00 P.M.

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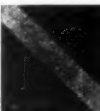
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